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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

Memoirs of the Court of England, from the Revolution in 1688 to the Death of George II. By John Henenge Jesse, Esq., author of "Memoirs of the Court of England during the Reign of the Stuarts." 3 vols. 8vo. Bentley.

As we could merely announce this sequel to Mr. Jesse's historical researches in a preceding *Gazette*, we return with pleasure to it as our first duty of the year, in order to afford to the public some notion of its many attractions. It gives us the home, private, and personal memoirs of royalty from William III. and his Queen Mary to George II.; and lets us into the stories of their courtly circles, and their recreations when released from the miseries of ceremony and etiquette. These are most diverting passages, for none but kings and queens can have an idea of the delights enjoyed when they can thus throw off the trammel-harness of continual care, and, like horses released from the long-staged coach and turned into fresh pastures, fling up their heels and gambol *ad libitum*. Editors of periodicals may perhaps have a tolerable appreciation of the change, and so may a business-doing prime minister, a secretary of state, a head of a responsible governing board, or a coal-whipper at evening in the dog-days. But the rest of the world had better look to our author for entertaining accounts of phases in the upper regions of society; as they may serve them for a relaxation of the same sort.

Not having to introduce a few samples of agreeable and anecdotal relations, we do not further trespass on our space than to say, that the very spirit of Horace Walpole seems to have been transferred into Mr. Jesse's volumes; and that having once begun with them, it will be found a difficult matter to lay them down till the word *finis* stares the untired reader in the face.

Our first refers to King William, of whom Mr. Jesse observes:—

"To the vulgar, the manners of William appear to have been at all times more gracious than to those of higher rank. Some years afterwards, he was passing through a village in the neighbourhood of Windsor, when a woman, determined to get a sight of the king, thrust herself close to the windows of the royal carriage. Having satisfied her curiosity, she exclaimed, somewhat contemptuously, though perhaps not with the intention of being overheard, 'Is that the king? why my husband is a handsomer man than he!' William stooped towards her, and said, very seriously, 'Good woman, don't speak so loud; consider I'm a plover.'"

"His reign (he continues elsewhere), however, comprehends a melancholy catalogue of disgusts and disappointments; nor could William fail to be aware that the independent freedom of manner with which he was frequently addressed by the English nobility would not have been obtruded upon him had he been their legitimate sovereign instead of the successful assertor of their rights. As an instance of the seriousness with which it was his lot to meet the mentioned the following:—He was

once closeted with Lawrence Hyde, earl of Rochester, when, in the course of their conversation, the earl thought proper to urge him to adopt a line of conduct to which William was extremely averse. At length, Rochester exclaimed, with indecent warmth, 'Princes must not only hear good advice, but must take it.' He was no sooner gone than William, who seems to have been sensibly affected by this insolent speech, proceeded to pace the apartment several times, muttering frequently between his teeth the words, 'must—must.' At length, turning to Lord Jersey, he said, 'If I had ordered him to be thrown out of the window, he must have gone; I do not see how he could have hindered it.'"

"There was little of suavity or courtesy in the king's address; little that was calculated to conciliate a stranger, or procure him personal friends. His manners, indeed, seem to have been homely, almost to coarseness, and were unquestionably better suited to the camp than the court. The Duchess of Marlborough observes, in her apology for her conduct, 'I give an instance of his vulgar behaviour, at his own table, when the princess dined with him. It was in the beginning of his reign, when she was with child of the Duke of Gloucester. There happened to be a plate of peas, the first that had been seen that year. The king, without offering the princess the least share of them, eat them every one himself. Whether he offered any to the queen, I cannot say; but he might do so safely enough, for he knew she durst not touch them. The princess confessed, when she came home, she had so much mind to the peas, that she was afraid to look at them, and yet could hardly keep her eyes off them.'"

Under this reign we have the following anecdote of the brave Dundee, which is not perhaps unknown to some readers:—

"With all this ingratiating freedom and familiarity, his discipline at times appears to have been almost intolerably severe. Of this we have a memorable instance on record. A youth, of good family, in a skirmish with the enemy, was so overcome by his fears as to run away; however, as it was his first engagement, Dundee, with equal policy and good nature, expressed to the young soldier the interest he took in his welfare, and, to save him from irremedial disgrace, pretended that he had sent him with a message to the rear. This act of generosity was unfortunately but ill required; and in the next encounter with the enemy the youth again fled. Dundee sent for him to the front of his army.—'It is not right,' he said, 'that the son of a gentleman should suffer by the common executioner,'—and drawing a pistol from his belt, instantly shot him dead with his own hand. Death, indeed, was his penalty for almost every offence: 'all other punishments,' he said, 'disgraced a gentleman.'"

In the time of Queen Anne we find an amusing sketch of the Duchess of Buckingham, a part of which we copy.

"Among other frivolities which distinguished the character of the Duchess of Buckingham, it was her custom, on the anniversary of the execution of her presumed grandfather, Charles the First, to hold a solemn fast-day at Buck-

ingham House. It was on one of these occasions that she received, in mournful state, and under peculiar circumstances, the celebrated John, Lord Hervey. Ostensibly her object in requiring Lord Hervey's attendance was to negotiate a marriage between his eldest daughter and her own grandson, Constantine, afterwards the first Lord Mulgrave: in reality, however, her motive appears to have been to convert Lord Hervey to her own political way of thinking, and by a theatrical display of mournful grandeur, to impress him with a favourable notion of the importance of the designs which she had in hand. Accordingly, when Lord Hervey entered the great drawing-room at Buckingham House, he found the duchess seated in a chair of state in the deepest mourning, surrounded by her women, as black and dismal-looking as herself. Of the result of the interview we have no record. The marriage, indeed, subsequently took place; but as Lord Hervey continued steadfast in his political opinions, the parade and trappings of the fantastic duchess seem to have failed in their intended effect. Ridiculous as appears to have been the ceremony to which we have just referred, it was not altogether inconsistent with the manners and customs of the period. It may be remarked, that as late as the reign of George the First, it was usual, on the death of a husband, for a lady of any consequence to receive company in solemn state. The apartments which she occupied, as well as the staircase by which her guests ascended, were hung with black. The lady herself, shrouded with black crape, sat upright in bed under a canopy of the same sable hue; the apartment was lighted by a single taper; and, if the deceased happened to have left children, they were arranged, like the figures on an ancient monument, at the foot of the bed. No word was spoken; and the guests, after silently making their obeisance to the mourner, retired with the solemnity with which they came. A love of display,—originating apparently in the notion that it rendered her connexion with royalty more evident,—was a predominant feature in the character of the duchess. Among other evidences which she gave of this weakness may be mentioned the princely magnificence with which she travelled when abroad, and the pomp with which she buried her husband and her son. When the remains of the latter were brought from Rome to be interred in Westminster Abbey, she wrote to the Duchess of Marlborough, requesting the loan of the triumphal car which had carried the body of the great duke to the grave. 'I carried my Lord Marlborough,' was the caustic reply; 'and shall never be used by any body else.'—'I have consulted the undertaker,' was the retort of the other duchess; 'and he tells me I can have a finer for twenty pounds.' She herself dressed up a wax figure of her son (which may still be seen in a glass case in Westminster Abbey), and carefully superintended the ceremony of his lying in state. To her more intimate friends she sent word, that, for their better convenience, she was willing to introduce them to the show by a private door. Horace Walpole, in a letter to Sir Horace Mann, dated

24th December, 1741, relates an amusing anecdote of the duchess:—The Duchess of Buckingham, he says, 'who is more mad with pride than any mercer's wife in Bedlam, came the other night to the opera *en princesse*, literally in robes, red velvet, and ermine. I must tell you a story of her. Last week she sent for Cori, to pay him for her opera-ticket; he was not at home, but went in an hour afterwards. She said, did he treat her like a tradeswoman? She would teach him to respect women of her birth; said he was in league with Mr. Sheffield to abuse her, and bade him come the next morning at nine. He came; and she made him wait till eight at night, only sending him an omelet and a bottle of wine. As it was Friday, and he a catholic, she supposed he did not eat meat. At last she received him in all the form of a princess giving audience to an ambassador. 'Now,' she said, 'she had punished him.' It may be mentioned that, during her several visits to Rome, the duchess was in the habit of having her opera-box decorated in a similar manner to those set apart for crowned heads. When in France, too, she refused to pay her respects at Versailles, on the ground that the French court refused her the rank of a princess of the blood. The anecdotes which we have recorded of the Duchess of Buckingham render it unnecessary to offer any remarks on her character; yet the portrait which she has drawn of herself is too striking an exemplification of human vanity to be altogether omitted. 'Her heart was as compassionate as it was great; her affections warm, even to solicitude; her friendship not violent or jealous, but rational and persevering; her gratitude equal and constant to the living;—to the dead boundless and heroic. As her thoughts were her own, so were her words; and she was as sincere in uttering her judgment, as she was impartial in forming it. She was a safe companion; many were served, none ever suffered by her acquaintance. Inoffensive when provoked, when unprovoked not stupid; but the moment her enemy ceased to be hurtful, she could cease to act as an enemy; and, indeed, when forced to be so, the more a finished one for having been long a-making; and her proceeding with ill people was more in a calm and steady course, like justice, than in quick and passionate onsets, like revenge. As for those of whom she only thought ill, she considered them not so much as once to wish them ill; of such her contempt was great enough to put a stop to all other passions that could hurt them. Her love and aversion, her gratitude and resentment, her esteem and neglect, were equally open and strong, and alterable only from the alterations of the persons who created them. Her mind was too noble to be insincere, and her heart too honest to stand in need of it; so that she never found cause to repent her conduct either to a friend or an enemy.' Of her person it is said, in the same 'Character,' 'the nicest eye could find no fault in the outward lineaments of her face, or proportion of her body. It was such as pleased wherever she had a desire it should; yet she never envied that of any other which might better please in general.' Her beauty was probably always of the scornful kind. Lord Lansdowne writes, in his *Progress of Beauty*,—

'Soft and delicious as a southern sky
Are Dashwood's smiles;—when Darnley frowns we die.'

The duchess appears to have preserved her beauty to a late period. Baron de Bothmar, in a letter dated the 13th of August, 1714, alluding to the Duke of Buckingham having ap-

plied for the appointment of lady of the bed-chamber for his eccentric wife, writes to his correspondent, M. Bernsdorff,—'She is handsome, and appears to me fit for such a place; but she could not obtain it from the late queen, although she was her natural sister. I don't know if it was for that reason she did not choose to have her so near her, but preferred rather to give her a pension.'

Come we next to George I.

'Of the king's peculiar kind of humour, and of his practice of embellishing a slight incident, the following may be taken as a specimen: 'This is a very odd country,' he said, speaking of England; 'the first morning, after my arrival at St. James', I looked out of the window, and saw a park with walls, and a canal, which they told me were mine. The next day, Lord Chetwynd, the ranger of my park, sent me a brace of fine carp out of my canal, and I was told I must give five guineas to Lord Chetwynd's man, for bringing me my own carp, out of my own canal in my own park.' A seasonable and well-turned pleasantry appears to have usually had the effect of putting him in a good-humour; a circumstance of which his courtiers did not fail to avail themselves. Among those who were in the habit of diverting him, either by exposing their own follies or retailing those of others, was the Duchess of Bolton, a natural daughter of the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth. This lady is said to have frequently amused him by her ridiculous, and more than Hibernian, blunders. On one occasion, having been at the theatre the night before, when Colley Cibber's first dramatic performance, *Love's last Shift*, was acted, the king inquired of her, the next day, what piece she had seen performed. The play, she said, with a grave face, was *La dernière Chemise de l'Amour*. At another time she made her appearance at court in a great fright, and the king inquiring the cause of her alarm, she told him she had just been listening to a prophecy of Whiston, that the world would be burnt in three years; 'and for my part,' she added, 'I am determined to go to China.'

Lockhart, of Carnwath, in his Memoirs, relates a somewhat romantic anecdote, connected with the last illness of George the First, which was formerly current in Germany. According to this writer, the unfortunate Sophia Dorothea, shortly before her death, addressed a letter to her royal consort, in which, after emphatically asserting her innocence, she reproached him with the long course of ill-usage that she had experienced at his hands, and concluded by solemnly citing him to appear on a certain day before the Divine tribunal. This letter, it is said, was intrusted by the dying princess to a faithful attendant, by whom it was presented to the king on his entering his German dominions. He read it; appeared to be awe-struck by the contents, and immediately afterwards was seized by the disorder which carried him off. Lockhart, a trustworthy chronicler, informs us, that the same year in which the king died, he was actually shewn the letter in question by Count Welling, governor of Luxemburg. It is more likely, however, that Lockhart was imposed upon, than that the story had any foundation in fact. Indigestion, and not superstition, seems to have shortened the life of George the First.

Under the memoir of Lord Hervey we are told:—

'There is another poet, though of less note, whose name is intimately connected with that of Lord Hervey; and, as the history of the person in question forms an almost romantic

episode in the history of real life, it may not be uninteresting to introduce a few words respecting him. We allude to James Hammond, the author of the *Love-Elegies*, whose subsequent aberration of mind and untimely death may be indirectly traced to his connexion with Lord Hervey. The Delia of Hammond is known to have been Miss Catherine Dashwood, a young lady of considerable mental and personal accomplishments. She was a woman of the bed-chamber to the queen of George the Second, and a ward of Lord Hervey. The young poet became deeply enamoured of her; and in the course of a long courtship, which was distinguished by the customary characteristics of hope and despondency, addressed to her his graceful love-elegies, which are the more interesting from their being intended for the eye alone of the person to whom they were addressed, and, consequently, describing real and not imaginary ills. 'Sincere in his love as in his friendship,' says Lord Chesterfield, 'he wrote to his mistresses as he spoke to his friends, nothing but the true genuine sentiments of his heart. He sat down to write what he thought, not to think what he should write: it was nature and sentiment only that dictated to a real mistress, not youthful and poetic fancy to an imaginary one.' Miss Dashwood returned the love of the poet; and the only obstacle to their union arose from the cold obduracy and determined opposition of Lord Hervey. The reason which the latter gave for withholding his consent, was the inadequate means of the lovers to support themselves creditably in life. Hammond, however, is known to have possessed a private income of four hundred pounds a year, besides the salary which he drew as equerry to the Prince of Wales; moreover, he was regarded in the House of Commons as a young man of great promise, and lived on intimate terms with several of the most influential persons of the day. The real fact appears to have been, that a wide difference of political opinion, and the terms of intimacy subsisting between Hammond and the leaders of the party opposed to Lord Hervey, were the secret of the latter refusing his consent to the match. The sequel of the story may be soon told. Hammond, on Lord Hervey finally rejecting his overtures, fell seriously ill. His intellects became disordered; and on the 7th of June, 1742, he closed his life, in his thirty-third year, at the classical seat of his friend, Lord Cobham, at Stowe. Miss Dashwood remained true to his memory. She rejected several advantageous opportunities of entering the marriage-state; and though she survived her lover as many as thirty-five years, she retained to the last a tender recollection of his romantic devotedness and was ever sensibly affected by any allusion to their youthful loves.

It is not alone to the unmasculine delicacy of Lord Hervey's appearance, nor to the womanish tone of his voice, that we are to trace the character for effeminacy which he obtained among his contemporaries, for he himself seems to have courted it by an affected and almost finical nicety in his habits and tastes. On one occasion, when asked at dinner whether he would have some beef, he answered, with apparent seriousness,—'Beef! don't you know that I never eat beef, nor horse, nor any of those things?' Neither his effeminacy, however, his affection, nor his constitutional infirmities, appear to have undermined his cred with the fair sex. He bore off the beautiful Mary Lepel from a host of rivals; and the Princess Caroline, daughter of George the Se-

cond, is known to have conceived so romantic a passion for him, that, at his death, she became the prey of a settled melancholy, which only terminated with her blameless career."

We conclude with one paragraph of George the Second:—

"That the king was desirous of rendering himself popular with his English subjects there can be no question. One day, on visiting Richmond gardens, he found the gate locked, and some well-dressed persons waiting outside for admission. He sent directly for the head gardener, and in a tone of anger desired him immediately to open the gate. 'My subjects, sir,' he said, 'walk where they please.' The same gardener, complaining to him on one occasion, that the visitors to the gardens were in the habit of stealing the flower-roots, and tearing up the small shrubs, 'Plant more, then, you blockhead!' he said—at the same time shaking his cane in the face of the complainant."

We have only to add, that the author has improved greatly in manner and style; and having happily got over more dissolute times, has produced altogether one of the most entertaining works with which our lighter literature has ever been adorned.

NUMBER ONES.

Was ever one plural before? But what a number of No. 1's the new year does produce! Here is No. 1 of *The Builder*, the precursor of a weekly journal, addressed to the "work-shop and fire-side circle of the British artisan." It purports to embrace every subject connected with building, from the cathedral to the cottage, and its furniture and decoration. The first No. is, however, so much occupied with advertisements, that we can offer no opinion as to the probable merits of the ensuing publication.

No. 1. *Chronicles of the Careworn*. By Ed. West (London, Cleaver).—In hard times, such as the outcry is against these in which we live, what a multitude of readers might the "Careworn" comprehend! Mr. West's earnest endeavour seems to be, to advocate the cause of charity, and obtain commiseration for the poor and needy. His means are, tales descriptive of real life; one of which is here begun. The language is ambitious and sometimes incorrect. Thus, he talks of sovereigns as coins in circulation thirty years ago; and of a poor child being "without the common wants and requirements of abject necessity."

No. 1. *The Life and Adventures of Martin Chuzzlewit*. Edited by Boz (Chapman and Hall).—With two illustrations by Mr. Brown, "Phiz," we have here the introductory No. of Boz's new monthly publication. It is chiefly descriptive, but presents us with several dramatic characters; and two of them, Martin Chuzzlewit and Mr. Pecksniff, striking and original, the latter having the advantage in the latter respect. His two daughters too, Charity and Mercy, bid fair to carry out this feature of the family portraiture; as an object towards which Mr. Pinch, dependent upon them, stands forth like a different Newman Nogs. These are cleverly delineated in the illustration by Phiz. The style is in many parts highly wrought; but contrasted by a rather unusual form of construction in the more familiar scenes; thus, for—the youngest Miss Pecksniff was indeed a gushing thing,—we read, "she was indeed a gushing thing, was the youngest Miss Pecksniff." We have too little of the story yet to venture any opinion upon it; but we think we may say the admirers of Boz will find in Martin Chuzzlewit most of those characteristics which have

made him so universally popular. A brief description of an autumnal nightfall is exquisite.

No. 1, *L. S. D., or Accounts of Irish Heirs*. By S. Lover (London, F. Lover).—Mr. Lover has made astonishing progress with his etching needle. The two subjects which adorn his new serial are most artist-like in design and execution, and quite worthy of the great Cruikshank. The story of *Treasure-Trove* commences in Galway about a hundred years ago; and its hero Ned Corkery, the son of a reputable trader, is ushered in with an animated account of his birth, parentage, and education, a horse-race, a cock-fight, a street midnight-affray, and other incidents of a stirring kind. This portion is almost a complete episode in itself, but seems to lead the way to events of more diversified and extended interest. The contrast between old and young Corkery is both forcible and entertaining; and, we think, we are justified in stating that *L. S. D.* promises to be the best production of the pen of the author of *Handy Andy*, and other much-esteemed works—for there is a depth of feeling about it, which must tell finely in juxtaposition with his acknowledged humour and comic Irish drollery.

No. 1. *Jessie Phillips. A Tale of the New Poor-Law*. By Mrs. Trollope (London, H. Colburn).—A tale to enforce the necessity of an alteration in the poor-law. It begins with a description of the midland village of Deepbrook and its inhabitants, together with a large Union workhouse, and a resident assistant poor-law commissioner, Henry Mortimer, Esq., barrister-at-law. Jessie Phillips the heroine, and a number of other personages, are also introduced; and there is a clever etching by Mr. Leech. The story itself is not far enough developed to afford scope for any judgment upon it. All we can note is, that there is a good deal of bustle and preparation.

Ewbank on Hydraulic Machinery and Steam-Engines. Pp. 582. London, 1842. Tilt and Bogue.

This work, a descriptive and historical account of hydraulic and other machines for raising water, ancient and modern, and illustrated with 283 engravings, exhibits the results of reading and research seldom manifested in these days of book-making. Circumstances in early life led Mr. Thomas Ewbank to take an interest in practical hydraulics; and he says he became anxious to obtain an account of all the contrivances employed by different people to raise water—whether for domestic, agricultural, mining, manufacturing, or other purposes. Hearing that no such book had ever been published, and having in the course of several years collected memoranda, and procured most of the works quoted in his pages, he attempted to prepare a popular volume on the subject—something like the one he had formerly longed for—feeling persuaded that it will be as acceptable to mechanics under circumstances similar to those to which he had alluded, as it would have been to himself. No such longing ungratified may be again experienced by the young engineer; for the compilation before us is most full and complete. It contains every information as to wells, water-works, and engines, that could be desired; and for the general reader, a mass of interesting matter. Description, however, unless as copious as an index, would fail to afford an idea of its extent and value. And we can therefore only say, that it is the work of an enthusiast, and a diligent and industrious one. The enthusiasm of Mr. Ewbank, though, breaks away and runs

wild constantly—at least so it seems to our English notions—and then the spirit of the republican hatred to the old country, &c. &c., dash forth fiercely. We may agree with him, that science and art are renovating the constitution of society;—but what trash is the Owenism, that "the destiny of nations cannot be much longer held by political gamblers, wealthy dolts, titled buffoons, and royal puppets"! We may acknowledge with him, that the history and progress of the useful arts will soon become a subject of general study; nay, more, that they have been and are the objects of prevailing interest; and that still the annals of mechanism present unexplored sources of materials;—but if we are to wait for works founded on the origin, progress, and maturity of the useful arts, to charm the imagination and improve the judgment, until the time when mere sentiment grows flat, and the exhibition of the passions become stale—when politics, history, and love, are exhausted—time will have passed away.

The American, Mr. Ewbank, thinks it will ever redound to the glory of James Watt that he refused a title: whilst the French philosopher, M. Arago, expresses his disappointment that his friend was not made a *Peer*. Such will ever be the result of early training; as the twig is bent, so will the tree grow. We object not to this diversity of opinion; for such must be, so long as a state of things similar to the present exists. Change, the spirit of time, may spread its all-powerful influence, until from the far east to the far west all institutions will be assimilated; but that the change may be gradual, and not one of convulsions and confusion, is our philanthropic wish. To retaliate for the vulgar epithets applied to English kings and institutions, we could point attention to the propinquity and to the peculiar governments of China and America; and to the truth of the sayings, that extremes meet, and that from the sublime to the ridiculous there is but a step; yet we refrain, from a conviction that in this respect the bitterness of Mr. Ewbank is the blemish of his book; and what have political feelings to do with hydraulic machinery and steam-engines?

STRUTT'S TOUR IN CALABRIA AND SICILY.

[Second notice: conclusion.]

HAVING been led away by the light of Mount Etna in our last No., and left the author's Calabrian travel altogether untouched, we now return to him, in order to bestow due notice on that portion of his work. We feel indeed that such a volume may be dismissed with brevity, though agreeable enough to while away a leisure hour; and our first extract shall be in *medias res*, at the osteria of the village of Spezzano, near the Gulf of Taranto:—

"The place (we are told) was in an instant full of grim-looking fellows, attracted by our foreign appearance, who scarcely left us room to turn. We got seated, however; and, thanks to the culinary skill of one of our French companions, the Count de W——, soon had a dish of eggs *sur le plat* before us, to which we added some slices of fried bacon, in the English fashion, and began to feel very comfortable at the result of our united exertions. The villagers, tired of looking on, commenced amongst themselves a kind of game on their fingers, resembling the Roman *Morra*; and the winner having collected the miserable *grani* of his less fortunate companions, had a large jug of wine presented to him, which he emptied at one remorseless draught. Their dialect seemed to

us very peculiar; and we soon learnt that they were of Albanian origin, and consequently still preserve the Greek language. Many villages are to be found in Calabria inhabited entirely by these *Albanesi*; and at one called Santa Sophia, after the name of their patroness, scarcely a man can speak Italian. One of these men undertook to let us hear a specimen of their language; and translating his speech, we found it to be a demand for wine. We were obliged to drink with him, and we all soon became very merry; so, leaving our knapsacks with mine host, we sallied out to join in the gaieties of the village, it chancing to be a *fiesta*."

A little onward we come to Cosenza, the entrance to which, "by a kind of public walk, is pleasing, but the interior of the town is dirty and ill-built. The inn, however, is in a gay situation,—commanding a view of the principal street, the ass-market, the river Vascotto, the bed of which formed the grave of Alaric, king of the Goths, and the bridge over it. This said bridge was, a few hours ago, the scene of a fatal quarrel between a barber and another man, who, thinking less of defending themselves than of assaulting their antagonist, drew their knives, and stabbed each other at the same moment. The barber, however, who was the least wounded, had sufficient strength to despatch his enemy with thirteen stabs. It might seem that the ferocious spirit which instigated the Goths to murder all who had been concerned in forming, by turning the river from its source, the grave of their valiant monarch, with all his portable wealth, still animated the banks of this now insignificant stream, for occurrences of this kind are too frequent in Cosenza to excite any sensation; and our host merely mentioned it to us as one of the passing events of the day, to be gossiped about for a time, and then forgotten like the rest. The Calabrians of this province have a very bad reputation; and it is no small proof of the correctness of the imputation, that Cosenza, with a population of less than twenty thousand inhabitants, has at this time thirteen hundred robbers and murderers in its prisons. We obtained supper with some difficulty from our lazy host; and then lounged about the town, until our legs, reminding us that we had walked thirty miles already, seemed to demand their just repose." * * * Here "the price of an ass varies from ten to thirty ducats; but then a good one is esteemed almost as much as a horse. The mules bear a still higher price than either horse or ass, and are, in general, far more serviceable and finer beasts: they fetch from thirty to eighty ducats. The various occupations of the morning gave us a very good appetite for dinner; and about five o'clock in the afternoon we began the grave discussion of our, as usual, overcharged bill. Our host amused us much by the laziness with which he conducted his imposition; stretched upon one of our five beds, he assured us he could not take a *torsene* less; we, on the other hand, could not give a *torsene* more; and, answering his grimaces and shrugs, for he was too indolent to use many words, with grimaces and shrugs even more *outrés*, we left him reclining with half-shut eyes, outstretching still his discontented hand."

At Cortale we hear more of the Albanian colonists, a band of whom, at Caraffa, attacked and nearly murdered the travellers:—
"We learnt (says Mr. Strutt) that they are in part the descendants of an army of Albanians, sent by Scanderberg to the succour of Alphonso, king of Arragon and Naples, which

never returned to its native land; and in part of a much more recent colony, invited over by Carlos, the third great grandfather of the reigning king, who, in order to increase the population of the Calabrians, gave to every Albanian family, willing to come and settle therein, a pair of oxen, a house and small portion of land, with five-and-twenty ducats for *les frais du ménage*. These conditions were sufficiently alluring to procure for the country the advantage of some thousands of settlers, who were dispersed about, and formed villages of three or four hundred souls; not being allowed, for very politic reasons, to congregate in any one place in greater numbers. Their language has thus been preserved; and although the men have laid by their costume, and become entirely Calabrian, as to externals, the women have shewn more attachment to their national finery, and still continue to wear the rich dresses of their female ancestors."

A number of prisoners being apprehended, and brought up for examination, it is related—

"The women, meanwhile, not aware of this recognition, continued to sustain the innocence of the accused, wringing their hands, and lamenting, '*O poveri Greci*.' Their complaints were interrupted by Don Domenico, who, wishing to give us a characteristic exhibition, invited these poor women, rather *mal à propos*, I thought, to perform for our amusement their national dance—a relic of their ancient customs still preserved amongst them. The women obeyed, and seemed for a moment to forget their woes, as they joined hands and moved in a circle, marking the measure with a low monotonous chant. This dance is used in their fêtes and rejoicings, and is always executed by females, who form a ring, and placing a young man in the centre of it, dance around him, and address him in a wild song, the burden of which is repeated between each couplet, like the *ranz de vaches* in Switzerland. These songs, or chants, are various; but by far the best known is one which has been handed down by their ancestors, and celebrates the feats in arms of their famed leader Scanderberg; this, however, the fair Albanians had the delicacy to avoid in the present instance, thinking, perhaps, it would allude too nearly to the prowess of their husbands or lovers, and our own late unfortunate discomfiture in the valley."

This robbery-affair, and the subsequent judicial proceedings, are in truth the spice of the Calabrian tour; and connected with them we have the following passage:—

"We soon entered San Floro, whose inhabitants observed us with the most intense curiosity, for they had heard the firing, and some of the labourers belonging to the village had, at first, spread the report that several brigands were taken, one of them disguised as a hermit. This must have been De W— or F—, whose black beards and mustachios are uncommon here, where the people are not allowed by their government to wear these natural appendages to the masculine visage. We slowly calvaded through the stony, precipitous street, and passing the remains of an old castle, formerly belonging, we were told, to one of the Dukes of Calabria, halted before the house of a certain Don Cesare, who seemed delighted to see Don Domenico, and received us all very warmly and hospitably. We entered, and were soon seated in a great circle of people, who were never weary of examining and pitying us; and all agreed that the Caraffa people, having pretended to take two such harmless-looking personages as myself and J— for brigands, was merely a villainous pretext for exercising their natural

love of pillage and slaughter; thereupon they quoted various San Floro songs, in which their hated neighbours, the Albanians, were not spared, and they sung out—

'O Greco sempre traditore,'

with an emphasis which shewed that the antipathy of old times, when the Caraffites often surprised and plundered San Floro, was not yet done away with. Our host took us into another room, to bathe our bruises afresh with vinegar and water, and during the operation, pointing to a picture of Saint Filomena, he asked us whether that saint was known in France and England; we replied, that we imagined more in France and Ireland. In order to assist in getting the evening over, two men were brought in, to amuse us with songs, accompanied with their mandolines. They gave us their national airs, which have all the same character, and are not unlike a kind of recitative church-music. What with the songs, shewing our sketches, and conversation, midnight came at last, and supper was announced, a word that proved a signal of departure to many of the supernumeraries. The repast began as usual with the stimulants, after which many solid dishes were solemnly discussed. Our host's pretty wife and sister graced the top of the table, with a dignified bashfulness; whilst plenty of excellent wine went merrily round: as to the water, a large beaker at each corner of the board, replenished when necessary by the servitors, sufficed for the whole company, each drinking out of that nearest him. Supper ended, we went directly to bed."

We do not wonder at the Messieurs, bearded like parads, being mistaken for highwaymen; for really those we see so grizzily about our London streets are more like corsairs, thieves, or *gambins*, than honest *gens* or gentlemen: the rest is a pleasing trait of Calabrian hospitality. Of which, *apropos*: we often hear of the wine, &c., but Mr. Strutt seems to take it for granted that his readers must know all about the things he mentions, and seldom takes the trouble to describe them. Thus at Cortale, we have the most information in these words:—

"As to wine, we are well supplied. Our host asked us, this morning, with much *naïveté*, whether we preferred light wine or strong; when, perceiving some diversity of opinion, or perhaps some struggle of modesty, he instantly ordered up both; so we have good red wines, all, by the by, from his own vineyards, equalling in flavour and body the best *macon* or port. Nor are olives, the usual provocatives to the relish, wanting; we have them green and purple, pickled and fresh; but none salted in the English fashion. You may imagine, that with all this, and all sorts of curds, and fruits besides, we managed to breakfast tolerably well."

Again:—"This meal very much resembled last night's supper, consisting of the same plentiful and solid fare: one delicacy, indeed, I remarked for the first time—it was a dish of black snails, which seemed very much approved of by the company, particularly by Don Domenico, who told us that it was his favourite food."

At Reggio, breakfast: "Our appetites were sufficiently awakened by our ride to give a keen relish to this meal, which consisted of macaroni, fried slices of sword-fish, for so I literally translate *pescé spada*, served with oil and vinegar, salad, fresh curds, oranges, and almonds; the whole seasoned with a flask of that dark Calabrian wine, the strength and flavour of which gradually improve as we proceed southward."

And at Catania: "After having trudged a few miles, we made a halt to breakfast, at a

house that offered some appearance of hospitality. Our fare, which we discussed on the stone bench outside the door, under the shade of an ample vine, consisted of bread, hard eggs, and strong red wine; this latter was contained in glasses equalling the 'tappit hen,' or the 'bear of Bradwardine,' in capacity. I had never seen such large ones; they must have contained a couple of quarts each, at least; so that a glass and a half fully sufficed for our meal."

We hear at every place of the romantic scenery, picturesque costume, &c. &c., and of the writer's drawings, but their produce is not transferred to his journal, except in an indifferent frontispiece and vignette. The following are fair specimens of the best of such descriptions as are committed to language. At Cortale—

"As we returned, we passed a *vaccaro*, tending his cows: we fell into conversation with him; and having heard much of the skill of these fellows with the hatchet, and seeing the weapon stuck as usual in his broad belt, we begged for a proof of his dexterity: he willingly complied; and planting a stick in the ground, retired to some distance, produced the axe, which, hurled back foremost, turned whistling in the air, and in an instant cut down the stick. On our complimenting him, he said, 'I can throw well at a good mark; the other day, for instance, I had a quarrel with a man in that lupin-field, and I sent the hatchet so neatly that it opened his face from the eye to the chin!' We left him chuckling over the remembrance of his exploit, and returned home, as the light gradually faded from the horizon. The large green before the church, opposite Don Domenico's house, was full of loungers and gossipers; some sitting round the venerable tree which occupies its centre, some at the fountain, others strolling about, watching the rising moon; whilst here and there an urban forgot the strictness of his duty, to mix in the social groups that came forth to enjoy the freshness of the night. These urbanes are tolerably well organised, and there are about fourteen of them stationed every day, as sentinels, in various parts of the village. We stayed conversing some time with a young man, who had a fine natural taste for music; and with some young priests, who envied greatly our facility of travelling. 'How is it possible,' they cried, 'that your parents should have allowed you, so young, to leave them and travel so far, to *girar il mondo*; whilst we cannot even get permission from our fathers to go and see *Catanaro*?' This is one proof among many others we have had occasion to remark, of the height to which filial duty is carried in this country: a young man, who had certainly arrived at years of discretion, being at least three or four and twenty, complained, in our presence, that his father would not give him leave to go to the next village; but the idea of going without leave seemed not for an instant to have entered his head. The great respect and deference paid to parents throughout Calabria, has been adduced, I think, by Galanti, as one proof of its inhabitants being descended from the ancient Samnites, who carried the filial principle to its highest perfection."

Monteleone:—"Our way lay through a steep wooded ravine, upon whose rugged side Tucci shewed us, as we passed, the spot where, last November, three brigands were captured. They were seen coming over the high plain above the forest, at daybreak, by some *foresi*; who, alarmed by the appearance of these armed strangers, dressed in the black velvet costume and ornamented hats of the Cosenzan

robbers, took a circuit back to Cortale; and, spreading the news, soon sent out the urbanes of the village, eager for their prey, to make a general *battue*. About nine o'clock, the unfortunate trio was discovered, hidden in the bushes behind a large tree; two of them attempted to escape, whilst the other stayed to fire upon the Cortalans. The latter, however, returned the compliment with such effect that two of the brigands were killed, and the third, who was badly wounded, only recovered to be sent to the galleys for life. 'The bandit's life,' observed honest Vincenzo, 'is a hard one after all, and a man must be of a robust constitution to undertake it: to sleep abroad in all seasons, to eat unripe corn and beans, snatched as he steals through the fields by night, to live in perpetual alarms, are very unpleasant and wearing things; and require all the luxuries of food, wine, and women, which he enjoys in the towns, after some successful stroke, to reconcile him to them.' From this scene of action we soon emerged, and saw before us the plain he had mentioned, bleak and barren. The thin clouds and morning mists, which enveloped us in their damp wreaths, hindered us from enjoying the view, which, from this elevation, must be admirable. Here and there we observed the thatched huts of shepherds, with their inhabitants lounging at the door, curiously watching our caravan, and counting the number of men and guns we boasted. Vincenzo Tucci, like a prudent general, was very careful of the baggage, and directed us to halt until the muleteer, who had fallen a little in the rear, should come up: 'otherwise,' said he, 'those devils of *foresi* will be profiting by this fog to take the knapsacks off the mule.' After we had crossed the high plain, which in part forms the summit of this mountainous region, and commenced descending, by a rough path, towards the village of Conga, situated about six miles from Cortale, our second urban took leave of us, and struck off in a different direction; his peaked hat and long gun soon disappearing in the fog. As we continued descending, the vapours occasionally parted to shew us the rich landscape below; one moment gleaming with the darting rays and long shadows of the rising sun, and the next veiled from our sight by the closing of envious mists. The advancing day, however, chased away these impediments, and we soon beheld Conga clearly before us. We were objects of the greatest interest to the inhabitants; and as we passed along the narrow street every one was pointing us out as the travellers who had been '*rubati dai briganti*.' The costume here was very pretty; and I stopped to sketch one woman, whose black silk head-dress, white frill, sleeves, and plaited *camiscia*, blue shoulder-straps, dark brown bodice, with sleeves of the same colour, trimmed at the wrist with gold lace, and hanging from the shoulder, unoccupied; *enfin*, whose light blue, short, striped apron, dark looped-up dress, scarlet petticoat, and bare feet, rendered her a most picturesque subject for the pencil. The people of Conga were very busy winding the silk off their cocoons; the apparatus being generally situated under a trellis-work of vine in front of their houses. Silkworms are reared in considerable quantities both here and at Cortale. Don Domenico had two very large rooms full of them."

These extracts fairly exhibit the character of the publication, and seem to promise in future years less hurried and better concocted works from the same quarter.

BAILLIE'S LETTERS AND JOURNALS.

[Second notice: conclusion.]

THE condition of poor Scotia at this time ("Stands Scotland where it did?") is lamentably detailed by the patriotic writer.

"As for our state, this is its case:—Our nobility weell near all are wracked. Dukes Hamilton, the one execute, the other slain; their state forfait; one part of it gifted to English sojourns, the rest will not pay the debt; little left to the heretrix; almost the whole name undone with debt. Huntlie execute; his sonnes all dead but the youngest; there is more debt on the house nor the land can pay. Lennox is living as a man buried in his house of Cobham; Dowglass and his sonne Angus are quyet men, of no respect. Argyle almost drowned with debt, in friendship with the English, but in hatred with the country; he courts the remonstrators, who were and are averse from him. Chancellor Loudoun lives like an outlaw about Athole, his lands comprysed for debt, under a general very great disgrace. Marschell, Rothes, Eglinton and his three sonnes, Craufurd, Lauderdale, and others, prisoners in England; and their lands all either sequestrate or forfait, and gifted to English sojourns. Balmerinock suddenly dead; and his sonne, for public debt, comprysings, and captions, keeps not the calsie. Warriston having refounded much of what he got for places, lives priville in a hard enough condition, much hated by the most, and neglected by all, except the remonstrators, to whom he is guide. Our criminal judicatories are all in the hands of the English; our civile courts in their hands also, only some of the remonstrators are adjoynd with them. In the session are Craighall (now dead), and his brother Hopetoun, Mr. A. Person, Southhall, Colonel Lockhart, and Swinton. The only clerks to the session are Mr. John Spreule and William Downie. The commissariat and sherriffs courts are all in the hands of English sojourns, with the adjunction, in some places, of some few remonstrants. Strong garisons in Leith, Edinburgh towne and castell, Glasgow, Ayr, Dumbarton, Stirling, Lithgow, Perth, Dundee, Bruntisland, Dunnotter, Aberdeen, Inverness, Inneraray, Dunstaffnage, &c. Of a long tyme no man in the whole isle did mute; all were lulled up in a lethargick fear and despair. Only the other year, Glencairne and Balcarras, understanding of one order to apprehend them as corresponding with the king, retired to the hills of Athole. Kenmore having escaped from England, when his house was burnt and his rents ceased upon, got to the Lennox with a few horse; Lorne being but coarsely used by his father, joyned with Kenmore. To these sundrie did associat Glen-garie, Athole, Seaforth: not so much to doe any thing against the English, as to make some noyse of a partie, to encourage the king's friends abroad to send him supplies of men, armes, and money. At once a great animositie did ryse in every shyre of the land; very many young gentlemen made bold with all the servicable horse they could find about them; and notwithstanding of all the diligence the English could use to prevent, great numbers came safe to the hills. The warre with Holland, and rumor of great help from over-seas, did increase daily both the number and courage of this partie. But behold inward division doth hazard all at the very beginning. The irreconcilable discords of Argyle and Hamilton had undone the isle, and almost both the families. Glencairne, Hamilton's cousigne, did much mistrust and slight Lorne; Ralstone, and the remonstrant

gentlemen of Kintyre, seemed readie to arme for the English against the king's partie. Lorne and Kenmure, with the men they had raised, went to Kintyre to suppress these. They, on hope of the English assistance from Aire, fortified the castle of Lochheid; but while neither Argyle nor the English appear in their defence, they rander the house to Lorne's discretion. Kenmure thinking the besiedged better used by Lorne than they deserved, fell in a discontent, and went from Lorne to Glencairne with many complaints. Balcarras also unwilling to have Glencairne above him, and conceaving that it was best for the advancing of the king's affaires, that till the king himself, or one of authoritie from him, should come, the partie should be ruled by a committee, without any supreme officer; and that all admitted to counsellors and command in the armie, should declare for the solenne league and covenant. For these ends he dealt with Lorne, Seaforth, and Athole, till Glencairne produced a commission under the king's hand to be generall, till himself, or some from him, should come to take the command. This unexpected commission put all to a submissive silence, but increased heart-burnings. Lorne, professing all firmness to the king and cause, was not willing to take orders from Glencairne, till he did know more particularly the king's pleasure. For this end he, Balcarras, and others, wrote to the king their discontent with Glencairne's command. These letters were intercepted and brought to Glencairne; whereupon he gave orders to Glen-garie to apprehend Lorne to answer for his sedition. Lorne hardlie enough escaped Glen-garie's persute; Balcarras retired; and a little after, with his lady, went disguised through England to the king. Notwithstanding of all these pitiefull and shameful debates, Glencairne's partie still increased, and his conduct became considerable: the whole highlands, isles, and much of the north, and numbers from the lowlands, was come unto him; so it was thought, at Mideltone's coming, he had here and there eight or nine thousand foot, and two or three thousand horse, of very stout and resolute men as we ever had on the fields, the most of them old sojourns. But at Mideltone's coming, when neither the king, nor his brother, nor any foraine force, did appear, the hearts of many began to doubt; and when after his coming, some months, notwithstanding of all the reiterat promises, no foraine assistance at all did come; but, on the contrare, the Holland peace was proclaimed; the treaty of the protector with Swane [Sweden] went on; the French ambassador at London was solemnly received, as the Spanish and Portugale had been; all humane hope began much to fail, especially after Monck's coming downe as generall, the proclamation of the protector, the act of union, and the ordinance of grace, which forfeited and deeply fyned so many, and subjected the whole privileges of the nation to the protector and his counsell's pleasure, with the abolition of royaltie, the whole branches of the family-royall, and all Scots parliaments and conventions of estates; the taking of Kin-noude, Lieutenant-Colonnells Herriot, Wishart, Forsyth, and sundry more of our Scotsmen unhappily: all these things were so hard pre-sages, that the most gave all the king's affaires for gone; and many did think that the king, whether through personall weakness, or the treacherie of the few counsellors about him, or the cross aspect of all Europe towards him, had so far disappointed the expectation of his friends, that while he lived he was not like to get such a partie for his service in Scotland. So

for the time the case of our land is most sad."

A very short while after:—

"Concerning our commonwealth, how it is conceived here, I give yow this account. The rising of the highlands has proven, as the most of wise men ever expected, hurtfull to us. The countrey was much oppressed by it, the king's partie much weakened, the English embittered the more against us, and their inward divisions and factions holden in so long as that partie stood considerable. It did grow, indeed, to a greater height than any could have imagined; yet the Holland peace, and the king's full disappointment abroad, with their owne foolish pride and divisions, brought them to nothing, and made them capitulate one after another, till at last all are come in. John Grahame of Duchray is the last, who indeed was among the most honest, stout, and wise men of them all. The English gave tolerable termes to them all; and by this wisdoms has gotten them all quiet. Glencairne led the way to the rest, as of going out, so of coming in; for which much blame lyes on him. Athole's friends brought him off with the first; Seaforth also became wise in tyme. Lorne's difference with his father kept him longer out; yet he also at last was persuaded to come in, albeit he and his father are not lyke to be good friends. His father, least he give any occasion to the English to suspect his collusion with his son, keeps the greater distance from him, albeit the most think the domestick divisions among them are so real and true as makes both their lives bitter and uncomfortable to them; and the great burthen of debt puts their verie house in a hazard to ruine, if the English be no more kind to them than they have been, or it seems they will be. The father sought a garisone to lye in Argyle, to keep it from his son's violence; but when it was on the way he repented, and gott a new order for their returne: yet they would [goe] on; yea, took up his owne best house of Inneraray, made the kirk and schooll their stables, and hardlie at this very time have been gotten removed. The people's great hatred lyes on him above any one man; and whatever befalls him, few does pitie it: at this very time his state is very staggering. The chancellour gott better conditions in his capitulation than any did expect, albeit his debts and infamie lye very heave upon him. For the tyme all Scotland is exceeding quiet, but in a very uncomfortable condition; very many of the noblemen and gentlemen, what with imprisonments, banishments, forfeitures, lynes, as yet continuing without any releasement, and private debts from their former troubles, are wracked or going to wrack. The commonaltie and others are oppressed with maintainance to the English armie. Strange want of money upon want of trade, for our towns have no considerable trade; and what is, the English has possessed it. The victuall is extraordinarie cheap, in God's mercie, but judgment to many. Want of justice, for we have no barron-courts; our sheriffs have little skill, for common being English sojourns; our lords of session, a few English, unexperienced with our law, and who, this twelve moneth, hes done little or nought: great is our suffering through want of that court."

Here is another strange list of disasters (1658):—

"We grieve for sundry unhappy accidents and sudden deaths among us. My Lord Killmars, a most gallant youth of nineteen years, among the tallest men of the isle, in a few dayes sickness of a purple fever, died. My nephew, my best friend in Glasgow, the stoutest man

in the town, suddenly taken away with the same. So Sir John Gear of Lag, when coming to Edinburgh to marrie the daughter of Athole's sister. Young Dughall, a very fyne youth of twenty yeares, taken away with the pokes. John Bell, the only child remaining to Mr. John Bell our friend, died of a purple fever. My Lord Ross, a good young youth, as was supposed, fallen in adulterie with his child's nurse. The Earl of Eglintoun's heir, the Master Montgomerie, conveying his father to London, runs away without any advyce, and maries a daughter of my Lord Dumfries, who is a broken man, when he was sure of my Lady Balcrough's marriage, the greatest match in Britain: this unexpected pranck is worse to all his kinn than his death would have been. The Earl of Murray did little better; for at London, without any advyce, he ran and married Sir William Balfour's second daughter; as my Lord Paslay, the other year, lost himself in marrying, at London, a daughter of Sir John Lenthal, who had born to Sir William Fleming some children; and my Lord Kenmure cast himself away, in that same place, on a foolish marriage, whilk will accomplish the ruine of his familie. The Earle of Rothes is put in the castle on a most shameful occasion: my Lord Howard's sister matched with my Lord Balcony, Rothes's sister's son, Generall Leslie's oye; this Howard's wife, a very light woman, came to make a visit to Fife, where her carriage every where was exceeding wanton; Rothes openly bure her too much company, to the offence of many. However, about that tyme she is gotten with child, which she bears at London: her husband, finding that he had not been near her for three or four moneths from her conception, falls in an outrageous jealousy with her; suspects my Lord Bellassis, whom his brother fights in that quarrell; but suspects Rothes more, and in a rage posts towards Scotland to fight Rothes. The protector hearing of it, causes follow and apprehend Howard, and sends an order in haste to secure Rothes in the castle of Edinburgh: where yet he lyes in great infamie. My Lord Foster [Forrester], on a great suspicion of incest with his wife's sister, his brother's wife, with grief of that and other misdemeanours, hes brought his wife to her grave. My Lord Lorne, a most excellent and honest-minded youth, prisoner in the castle of Edinburgh, walking about while the lieutenant of the castle with others are playing with hand-bullets, one of them, rebounding off the wall, stricks him on the head, whereon he fell down dead and speechless for a long tyme; his death sundry dayes was expected; but, blessed be God, I hear this day he was better. My Lord Toftes, being well at night, died ere the morrow. My Lord Clerkinton, Sir William Scot, going up weell his own stair in Edinburgh, before he sat downe, fell dead in less than a quarter of ane hour. My Lord Balcolmy, the best judge we had, going in weell to the Tolbooth, before he sat downe on the bench, fell dead immediatlie. Sundry other sudden deaths, both of men and women, have been among us this year; the other night Mr. William Forrest, an old school-master, lay down weell at eight o'clock, and before ten was found dead: James Tran got not so much tyme as to make his testament."

A biography of Baillie adds much to the value of this work, which is carefully indexed and judiciously annotated.

The Quarterly Journal of Meteorology and Physical Science. No. V. London, E. Lumley. We regret to find from the address of the editors in this number, that unless the present sub-

scribers will interest themselves, and afford the journal more support than it has experienced during the past year, and the first of its existence, it will only appear in future at intervals of six months.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

RADIAL IMAGES.*

To the Editor of the *Literary Gazette*.
Royal Institution, Jan. 5, 1843.

My dear Sir,—You noticed a short time since, in connexion with Möser's discovery (*Lit. Gaz.* No. 1339, p. 650), a fact that I had mentioned to you respecting the production upon glass of the forms delineated in a drawing which that glass had been used to protect. That drawing was a view of Rome, in water-colours, by Coke Smyth, was two years old, and perhaps had remained glazed the whole time. Since then I have observed many similar effects with recent drawings, but none so very striking and perfect as that one. This effect was, I think, without doubt due to the influence of vapour rising from a body and affecting the parts of a contiguous body, influenced by the ever-varying circumstances of heat, cold, moisture, perhaps electricity, &c., connected with the situations of the drawings; and can have no relation as to its cause with effects apparently similar produced by radiating agencies, whether of light, or heat, or chemical force. But as the effects of these different causes are likely to be mingled in some of the extreme cases for a while, I was glad of an opportunity lately given me by Mr. Colnaghi, of Pall Mall East, to examine the effects produced by the vicinity of drawings of great age upon the glass placed before them. The drawings I refer to were part of the original Lawrence collection purchased by Sir Robert Peel, and the glass placed before them was in quality bad, being subject to a very slight chemical action from the atmosphere. Many of these glasses were very dim within, and presented only a mottled and irregular appearance; but on one or two there were striking effects, and especially on that of the drawing of the Crucifixion, by Vandeyck, in which the spear, several of the limbs of the figures, the faces, and parts of the general forms, were very clearly visible on the glass. Now this drawing must be about 200 years old, and yet it produced the effect in question.

As Möser's discovery and views have led to the institution and publication of a great number of highly interesting results, it becomes necessary, for the interests of science, to distinguish well between the causes of the effects that may be observed. I will, therefore, suggest, that where effects are attributed to radiating agencies, as in the beautiful results of Daguerre and Talbot, and as I understand of Möser, that they be tested by producing some corresponding elementary effect through diaphanous or diathermanous bodies, as glass, rocksalt, &c.; there appears no reason why Möser's radiating effects should not be produced through the latter body. On the other hand, it is very probable, that where the effect has been attributed to radiating agency, whilst really produced by vapour, a diminution of the effect, or a disappearance of it altogether, might occur were the experiment repeated in vacuo, and so a test in

this direction also be applied to the results; for a vacuum would certainly not interfere with, but, if any thing, rather favour the phenomena dependent on radiation.—I am, my dear Sir, very truly yours, M. FARADAY.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Nov. 16.—Mr. Murchison in the chair. Three papers were read:—

1. "On the structure of the delta of the Ganges, as exhibited by the boring operations in Port William, A.D. 1836-40," by Lieut. R. B. Smith, Bengal Engineers. Since the year 1804 a number of boring operations have been conducted in the Gangetic delta, with a view to supply the deficiency of good fresh water in the vicinity of Calcutta, but, from mechanical obstacles, without success. The geological results of the last of these experiments, commenced in April 1836 and abandoned in 1840, after being carried on to the depth of 480 feet, are detailed by Lieut. Smith in this memoir. After penetrating to the depth of 10 feet through the artificial surface-soil, a bed of blue clay, close and adhesive in its texture, was entered. As the bore descended, the clay became darker in colour, till, in from 30 to 50 feet, large portions of peat, with decaying fragments of trees, were found. This peaty stratum had been formed from the debris of forests, which formerly covered the entire surface of the delta. Succeeding these peat-charged beds, a stratum of calcareous clay, 10 feet in thickness, is found; and intermixed with it are portions of the concretionary limestone, commonly known in India as kankur. Underlying the bed of calcareous clay, in which the kankur first occurs, there is a thin bed of green siliceous clay, extending from 60 to 65 feet in depth. The clay then loses its colour, and continues to a depth of 75 feet; the lower portion of it furnishing nodules of kankur. At 75 feet, a bed of variegated sandy or arenaceous clay commences, and continues to the depth of 120 feet, occasionally traversed by horizontal beds of kankur. Beneath this is a stratum of argillaceous marl, 5 feet in thickness; and succeeding it there is a bed, only three feet in thickness, of loose friable sandstone, the particles of sand being held loosely together by a clayey cement. Argillaceous marl, 20 feet in thickness, follows the sandstone, terminating at the depth of 150 feet, when it passes into an arenaceous clay, intermixed with water-worn nodules of hydrated oxide of iron. Weathered mica slate is found attached to the clay of this bed; and, throughout the entire range of strata penetrated, scales of mica have always been abundantly met with. At 175 feet a coarse friable quartzose conglomerate occurs, composed of pebbles of different sizes, though none are very large, cemented together by clay. At 177 feet this conglomerate becomes smaller grained; and at 183 ft. 3 in. it is found to pass into indurated ferruginous clay, which continues with but little variation to a depth of 208 feet. Here another layer of sandstone, soft in its upper portion, but becoming more indurated, and assuming the lamellar structure as if it passed through, occurs; the thickness being, however, no more than 3 feet. Ferruginous sand, with thin beds of calcareous and arenaceous clay, prevail from 208 feet to 380. Kankur, with minute water-worn fragments of quartz, felspar, granite, and other indications of debris from primary rocks, are met with in the lower parts of this sandy deposit, in which were also found three fragments of bones, of which one was considered by Mr. J. Prinsep to be the lower

half of a humerus of some small quadruped, like a dog; and another the fragment of the carapace of a turtle. At 380 feet there occurred a thin layer, only 2 feet in thickness, of blue calcareous clay, thickly studded with fragments of shells; and at 382 feet this was succeeded by a layer of dark clay, composed almost entirely of decayed wood. From the lower portion of it several fragments of coal, of excellent quality, were brought up. Underneath this stratum, and in the gravelly bed which immediately succeeds it, there were found several other fragments of fossil bones. One was considered to be a caudal vertebra of a kind of lizard, and the rest were fragments of turtles. These were discovered at the depth of 423 feet, and were associated with large rolled pebbles of quartz, both white and amethystine, felspar, limestone, and indurated clay. The gravel, composed entirely of the debris of primary rocks, continued to the depth of 481 feet, where the operations ceased. Lieut. Smith remarks the correspondence of the succession of the strata in the Gangetic delta at a depth of from 350 to 480 feet with that observed by Capt. Cautley at the base of the Himalaya. On geological grounds, he concludes, that, had no interruption arrested the experiment, the object in view would not have been gained.

2. "On pipes or sandgalls in chalk," by Mr. Joshua Trimmer. In this communication, the author maintains that the pipes in the chalk of the part of Kent examined were formed by the action of the sea on a low shore, and that they mark the boundaries of the ante-eocene sea, and were subsequently submerged and covered by the London clay. Mr. Trimmer considers the form and contents of the pipes to indicate the mechanical action of water; and having the opportunity of observing the removal of the covering from the chalk near Faversham, remarked that they were but the termination of furrows from six to twenty-four inches deep in the shallowest parts exposed, but widening and deepening as they approached the pipes, till they were lost in them. His opinion was strengthened by observing certain blocks of siliceous sandstone marked with similar furrows and pipes, though of smaller dimensions, which could not have been formed by the action of acidulated water. On the sea-shore near the Reculvers, he saw similar blocks presenting pipes in miniature; the waves, charged with small pebbles and sand, wearing the surface with furrows like those of the chalk; the softer parts of the stone then giving way, first hollows are formed, when the rotatory motion of the contents of the hollows, set in action by the influx and reflux of the waves, drills the pipe. Arguing from analogy, he holds that similar causes produced the pipes in chalk.

3. "On some remarkable concretions in the tertiary beds of the Isle of Man," by Mr. H. E. Strickland. The northern extremity of the Isle of Man consists of an arenaceous deposit, forming a district of about 50 square miles, the most extensive example of the marine newer pleiocene in the British isles. In places it attains a height of about 200 feet above the level of the sea. Organic remains are rather sparingly diffused in it, and Mr. Strickland enumerates twenty species, of which five are not existing inhabitants of the British seas. Near Ramsey the beds of this deposit occasionally exhibit a very remarkable concretionary structure. The sand has here been cemented into masses, which are extremely hard, and even sonorous when struck, though the sand in which they are imbedded is perfectly loose. The cementing ingredient, which the applica-

* We have given the title "Radial Images" to this valuable communication, to connect it with remarks on the same subject by Möser himself in our *Paris Letter*, page 8. Faraday suggests diaphanous and diathermanous experiments to prove radiating agencies. Möser appears to entertain no doubt that they are the effects of radiation and subsequent condensation.
—Ed. L. G.

tion of acid proves to be carbonate of lime, seems to have been influenced in its operations partly by the planes of stratification, and partly by the directions in which the sand has been originally drifted by currents. In the former case, the concretions are in the form of flat tubular masses, parallel to the stratification, often mammillated on their surfaces, or perforated obliquely by tubular cavities. In the latter case they assume a sub-cylindrical or spear-shaped form, and occur parallel both to the stratification and to each other. A pebble is frequently attached to the larger end of the concretion, which springs from it, as from a root, to the length of a foot or more, and gradually terminates in an obtuse flattened point. All these varieties are sometimes combined together into vast clusters of several tons weight, resembling masses of stalactite, the component portions being nearly parallel to each other. Mr. Strickland supposes that currents of water (or possibly of wind, operating during ebb-tide), flowing in a certain direction, may have disposed the sand in ridges parallel to that direction, and the carbonate of lime may have afterwards been attracted into these ridges in preference to the intermediate portion. This view is confirmed by the fact, that these concretions have frequently a pebble attached to the larger end, as though it had protected a portion of sand from the current, and caused it to accumulate in a ridge on the lee side,—a circumstance which may frequently be observed when sand is drifted by the wind or water.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

Jan. 3.—Professor Graham in the chair. Read, a paper by Mr. Cox, "On palladium." This metal, formerly only to be met with in small quantities as an alloy of platinum, and thence extracted, has been of late years imported largely from the Brazils, where it is procured from its union with gold-dust, and especially from the gold of the Golconda mine. During the process of reduction, palladium and the other alloys are thrown down in the state of a black powder; the mother-liquor promises several new compounds, and one particularly, a purple crystalline floating substance.

Remarks on a paper, only in the possession of the secretaries a few hours, by Liebig, on animal physiology, or more directly the formation of fat, were given. In a former paper, "On the materials that enter into the constitution of food," Liebig had shewn that food was identical with the substance of our own bodies; for instance, gluten identical with fibrin and albumen; and that food did not undergo any chemical change, digestion being merely a solution. And, farther, that those substances not containing nitrogen, viz. starch, sugar, gum, &c., were supposed to be used solely for production of animal heat. Food was divided into two classes, azotised and non-azotised matter; the first to repair the body as used, and the second for fuel. It occasionally happens that an animal received an excess of non-azotised substance, which is not wholly burned, the residue being converted into fat; and fat is not a source of nutriment, but of fuel.

This important doctrine has been attacked by Dumas (see Paris Letter, *Litt. Gaz.* No. 1316, p. 762). Liebig stated that a goose fattened on maize could not derive the fat from the food, as more in a given time was produced than it could have contained; but that the starch of the maize was converted into fat. Dumas denies the conversion, and says that maize contains nine per cent of a yellow oil; and asserts that in the case of the goose described by Lie-

big, the fat was contained ready formed in the food. In the present paper, which will be published at length in the memoirs of the Chemical Society, Liebig shews, by various experiments, that Dumas is wrong, and that conversion does take place. For instance, animals most readily fatten on substances containing starch, such as meal, peas, beans, beer, &c., and accurate experiments have proved that the quantity of fat developed was considerably greater than the quantity furnished by the food; and so for rice, dry potatoes, &c. The very exact experiments of Bous-singault, as to the feeding and products of a cow, moreover, substantiate Liebig's views. And further, hay, straw, &c., treated with ether, yield no substance like ordinary fat, but resembling wax. Liebig had also repeated the experiment of Dumas with regard to maize, and instead of 9 per cent had only obtained $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, of a heavy yellow oil. Other experimenters had recorded that they could not detect any fatty matter in Indian corn. Hence Liebig infers that sometimes maize may be rich in oil, and that some samples contain little or none. An interesting desultory conversation ensued.

MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.

Dec. 21.—Prof. Lindley in the chair. A paper was read from the Rev. J. B. Reade, entitled "Microscopic Chemistry: No. 1. On the existence of ammonia in gum, sugar, and other non-azotised bodies." The author, after alluding to the great degree of importance which chemistry might derive from the use of the microscope, goes on to state that a quantity of nitrogen not exceeding the $\frac{1}{10000}$ part of a grain, if existing as a constituent of ammonia, may be detected with certainty by means of the microscope. The method of detecting the ammonia in sugar was as follows:—by burning the sugar in the spirit-lamp until flame and aqueous vapour have ceased, and receiving the gas during subsequent combustion upon a slip of glass moistened with hydrochloric acid. In conclusion, the author stated that he had detected ammonia in beer, gum, and suet, which had all been classified by Liebig as non-nitrogenised bodies. He thought that the reason why chemists had failed in detecting nitrogen in sugar was because the quantity was much too small to be recognised by the usual process of ultimate analysis.

The chemists present denied the conclusion drawn by Mr. Reade; and Mr. Warrington attributed the presence of ammonia, if detected by the author, to nitrogen derived from the atmosphere.

A second paper was read by Mr. H. H. White, "On a new species of Xanthidium found in flint," which he had named *Xanthidium tubiferum aculeatum*, and was characterised by having the tentacula, which were twelve in number, quite pointed, and free from any appendages whatever; it measured $\frac{1}{160}$ of an inch from the extremities of the opposite tentacula; and the specimen was afterwards exhibited to the society.

Mr. A. H. Hassall then read a paper, entitled "Observations on the production of decay in fruit by means of fungi," continued. The author stated that, in order to set aside any doubt which might exist of the power of fungi in producing decay in fruit, he had inoculated sound fruit whilst on the tree, and found that the decay was as rapid as in those specimens which had been previously removed from the tree. He contended that the mere bruising of fruit was not sufficient of itself to cause decay, but that the presence either of fungi, or of

the sporules of fungi, were necessary, before the decay could take place.

Dr. Lankester combated this conclusion, and exhibited several apples in different stages of decomposition, without the possibility of the previous presence of sporules of fungi. The Dr. contended that decay was a quality inherent in fruit, and occurring earlier in the moist than in the drier kinds.

THE BUG.

[Though this is not the season when this disgusting pest annoys the population of crowded towns, we are not without the hope that a warning in time may prove a remedy and prevention for much of the unclean evil which summer heats bring with them.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

3 Waterloo Place, 31 Dec., 1842.

SIR,—In turning over some old notes made during my travels, I find one respecting the bug. It is this. The town of Korczets in Volhinia has in its vicinity a seam or seams of kaolin, or porcelain earth, which, as every one knows, is decomposed felspar. This kaolin is used in a porcelain-factory, to which it has given rise, and which, situated in the town, was the property of the Czartoriski family, and produced very superior articles. When the kaolin is in its crude state, it contains grains of quartz and a large quantity of minute particles of silver mica. These substances are separated by washing; the quartz is, I believe, thrown away, but the mica is collected and sold, either in its natural state or coloured of a pink colour, for drying writing, or other purposes. As there is a much greater quantity of the kaolin than is required for the manufactory, the inhabitants of the town and the neighbouring peasantry, as well as the Jews, of whom there are a great many, are allowed to take away any quantity they may require. The use to which they apply it is, for whitewashing their walls. The only preparation to which they subject it for this purpose, is, the washing out of the quartz: as to the mica, it is allowed to remain in the mass, as it gives a sparkling brilliancy to the white-washed walls, which is very pleasing. Now, the curious fact to which I would call your attention is this. Of bugs, which swarm elsewhere in that country, not one is ever found in a house whose walls are whitewashed with kaolin. And I was positively assured that, if a bug be placed on a wall so whitewashed, it immediately fell off dead. I regret exceedingly not having seen the experiment tried. If it be true, and every one there asserts it, I can only account for it in this way. The horrible smell emitted by the bug may proceed from some oleaginous excretion of the animal; if so, it is possible that the well-known absorbent property of the alumina on the walls may instantly absorb this, and cause a contraction of the pores of the insect and occasion its death. May it not be analogous to the fact of killing worms by powdered quick-lime? I need hardly add, that should experiment prove the fact, a cheap and elegant mode of ridding the dwellings of our poor of this filthy insect may be easily obtained, and its application recommended. J. R. J.

PARIS LETTER.

Paris, Dec. 31, 1842.

Academy of Sciences: sitting of Dec. 26.—M. Regnault read the report of the commission, consisting of himself, MM. Arago, Babinet, and Fioberg, appointed to examine the work of M. Poiseuille, entitled "Experimental researches on the movement of liquids in tubes of very small diameters."

The subject has been treated by the author

in a physiological point of view. He has sought to determine experimentally the laws which regulate the movement of distilled water in glass tubes, the diameters of which assimilate to the capillary vessels through which the liquids of the animal economy pass; he has experimented with diameters varying from $0^{\text{mm}},40$ to $0^{\text{mm}},02$, and under pressures much more considerable than those of any former investigators. The points of the inquiry are relative to the influence of pressure on the quantity of liquid which traverses, in the same time, tubes of very small diameter; to the influence of the length of the tube; and to the effect of the diameter on the quantity of liquid which passes through narrow tubes. The experiments conducted by the commission have confirmed the laws defined by M. Poiseuille, both in regard to the new laws and to those which have already been obtained, although, perhaps, not before so accurately verified. The memoir of M. Poiseuille will be published in the *Recueil des Savants étrangers*.*

Radial Images.—M. Moser of Königsberg, by letter, announced new researches on the production of images by the action of the invisible rays. He said, after the action of the invisible rays, the image appears only by breathing on the plate, or by exposing it to vapour of a higher tension. If the invisible rays have acted for a considerable time (as is the case in engravings placed under, but not in contact with, glass), the humidity of the atmosphere suffices. This humidity is condensed on the parts which have experienced the action of the rays, and where the vapour adheres. The image shows itself in the same way as the mercury-vapour adhering to the plate in the daguerreotype process. This explanation, admitting to M. Moser of no doubt, has led him to the following inductions. He has already proved that rays of every refrangibility produce the same effects, requiring only a longer or shorter time. If, then, invisible rays condense vapour contained in the air, the visible rays ought to do the same, provided they act for a long time, and with sufficient intensity. A plate, remaining a long time exposed to the sun, although raised to a high temperature, ought to be covered with dew. M. Moser last summer exposed plates of metal and of glass under screens cut out in figures to the sun for several hours. He obtained very clear images of the carvings. These images were exactly similar to those formed during several years in respect of an engraving. In his direct experiment, the vapour of the atmosphere was precipitated on the plates, although they were not below the temperature of the air, a condition required for ordinary dew. He finds himself forced to admit that from the sun emanates two forces, light and heat, and that in relation to the formation of dew they have properties diametrically opposed. He says, then, that the dew-theory is incomplete, and that the part which light plays in that phenomenon is not known.

Glaciers.—M. Agassiz, by letter to M. de Humboldt, writes that M. Forbes has left most of the questions respecting glaciers far behind the points to which M. Agassiz has brought them this year, with reference to the stratification which he has confounded with the accidental varieties in the blue bands, and to the general movement of glaciers. The data of M. Forbes have been derived from observa-

tions made during the summer months, while those of M. Agassiz have been the result of the annual movements of a series of points on the whole length of the glacier, and are diametrically opposed to those of M. Forbes.

M. Warden transmitted the following remarks on the subject of the projected *Union of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans*. The company authorised by the government of New Granada or Columbia to construct a canal between the two oceans have terminated the survey of the country across the isthmus of Panama, and they state that the isthmus, instead of being a rocky chain as most geographers state, is a valley, in which are several conical elevations from 20 to 60 feet high, among which numerous rivers from the extremity of the Andes run, emptying themselves by two principal channels, the one the river Chagre, into the Caribbean Sea; the other, the Rio Grande, into the Pacific Ocean. The elevation of the country between these two rivers is only 37 feet above high-water, and 64 feet above low-water mark. The projected canal will only be 49 miles long, its breadth will be 135 feet at the surface, 55 at the bottom; it will be 20 feet deep, and be navigable for vessels of from 1000 to 1400 tons. The two rivers in those parts where they have from 8 to 15 feet of depth, when dug to 20 feet will serve as the canal, and the water will be maintained at this height by water-gates. The total expense is estimated at 14,821,800 francs, including the cost of four steam-boats, and two iron bridges of 140 feet span, which should open for the passing of ships.

M. Bravais communicated the curve of diurnal thermometric variation observed at Boskoop during the period of the year when the sun there is constantly below the horizon. This curve is of very small extent, about $0^{\circ}3'$. At the same time the barometric variation is considerable, being only one-half less than in the climate of Paris. It seems from this, says M. Bravais, that the diurnal variation of the barometer is not only due to a wave caused by solar heat, and going from east to west, according to Ramond and Laplace, but, as it must be admitted with M. Daniell, to a wave which is propagated from the equator to the poles.

The number of students entered for the current academic year, 1842-3, in the faculty of law at Paris, is 2722. The numbers in the same faculty in the several provincial academies are as follow:—Toulouse, 540; Rennes, 189; Grenoble, 184; Poitiers, 178; Aix, 168; Dijon, 149; Caen, 135; Strasburg, 82. [Law enough in France, whatever there may be of justice: see Mad. Laffarge and Blesson's trials.]

M. Blanqui has opened his course of lectures on industrial economy, at the Conservatoire des Arts et Metiers, with much *éclat*. In his introductory lecture, he dwelt with much clearness on the mutual dependence in which producing and manufacturing populations are towards each other; and shewed from thence the importance of studying the state of foreign sources of raw materials, the state of foreign markets, &c. He pointed out, also, the importance of the social condition of the slave-population in the United States,—that population being in reality the producing power of cotton for the greater part of all European manufactures.

The King of Sardinia has given a large gold medal to M. Audin, author of the *Lives of Luther and Calvin*. This writer espouses altogether the Roman Catholic side of the question.

Intelligence has been received from M. d'Arnaud, who has been sent with an expedition by

Mehemet Ali to explore the Upper Nile. The expedition had found that the larger body of water came from the southern, and not from the western, branch of the Nile, and therefore had proceeded up the former. An accident in the upsetting of one of the boats had destroyed all M. d'Arnaud's collections of objects of natural history; but his journals and observations had been preserved.

The usual notice for the opening of the Exhibition of modern paintings, &c. at the Louvre, has been issued. It begins March 15, and closes May 15.

The Administration des Douanes has just published another volume of that valuable series of statistical documents relating to the trade of France. This volume comprises all the trade for the year 1841.

A volume of fables, by M. Viennet, is advertised by Paulin, the well-known publisher. It is to contain 84 pieces, of which 70 are said to be hitherto unknown to the public. The author is the most successful fabulist of his day.

It is said that two genuine Rembrandts have been lately sold at Amsterdam, after having been kept in the same house in which they were placed on being taken from the artist's easel up to the present time. They fetched 3000*l.* the two, and were purchased by M. Nieuwhuys of Brussels.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, Dec. 17.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Doctor in Medicine.—J. J. A. Brown, Univ. Coll. *Bachelor in Divinity*.—R. Frichard, fellow of Jesus College.

Bachelor in Civil Law.—C. Lempriere, fellow of St. John's College.

Masters of Arts.—V. Page, student of Ch. Ch.; Rev. W. F. Sims, Rev. E. Wood, Magd. Hall; Rev. E. S. Venn, Wadham College; Rev. J. Aldersey, Queen's College; Rev. W. Dowding, Merton College.

Bachelors of Arts.—E. Stuart, New Inn Hall; J. F. Bickerdike, St. Edmund Hall; W. Allen, Magd. Hall; T. Williams, C. M. Skottow, C. G. Peck, scholars of Jesus College; A. F. Mayo, Oriel College; T. Hugo, Worcester College; the Rev. W. Kemble, M.A., formerly of Lincoln College.

On Wednesday last, the Hulsean prize was adjudged to J. Davies, B.A., scholar of St. John's College. Subject: "What is the relation in which the moral precepts of the New and Old Testament stand to each other?"—*Cambridge Chronicle*, 31st Dec.

Prize Subject.—*Senonian*. The subject of the Senonian poem for the present year is, "Faith, Hope, and Charity."

Hulsean.—The premium of about 100*l.* will be given for the best dissertation on the following subject:—"The obligation of the Sabbath, with a history of the institution, and its influence from the earliest times to the present day."

LITERARY HONOUR: INSTITUTE OF FRANCE.

We have great pleasure in stating that our countryman Mr. Thomas Wright was on Friday (Dec. 30) elected, by a very great majority, Correspondent of the *Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres* for England, in the place left vacant by the lamented death of the late Earl of Munster. The youth of Mr. Wright makes this mark of distinction individually the more honourable to him; but our satisfaction is rather based on the ground of the compliment paid, through him, by the greatest Institution of France, to our English literature. His recent volume, the *Biographia Britannica Literaria* (published by Messrs. Parker, under the auspices of the Royal Society of Literature, and at the expense of nearly 600*l.*, liberally subscribed by the Earl of Ripon, president, and members of the council) has, we see by several of the leading continental reviews, made a strong impression in France and Germany, especially in the latter country, which feels a common interest

* M. Canchy submitted, without reading, a memoir on dilatations, condensations, and rotations, produced by a change of form in a system of material points. And a memoir of M. Mandl, on the structure of bone, the results of microscopic observation, was referred to a commission.

in the productions of the early Saxon times, and no doubt contributed to the event we have here recorded. The next volume proposed by the Royal Society of Literature will embrace the Anglo-Norman period, so redolent of poetry and romance, as well as replete with solid learning, and the research which led to the resuscitation of long-buried letters. It is probable that this sequel to the *Biographia* will also be confided to Mr. Wright, whose intimate acquaintance with the subject fits him so eminently for the task; and we look forward with high expectation to the appearance of a work which bids so fair to supply a desideratum not only in British but in European literature.

At the same time were elected as Correspondents, Sig. Cavendon for Italy, in the room of Cardinal Mai, who has been promoted to be one of the foreign Associates; M. Wachsmuth for Germany, in the room of Gesenius; M. De Witt, for what are classed as the *Petites Nations*, in the place of Brönsted, of Copenhagen; and Eugène Boré, now, we believe, absent on a mission in Persia, as a National Correspondent, in the place of M. de Sauley, lately elected a Member of the Academy.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK:—

Monday.—Geographical, 8½ P.M.; British Architects, 8 P.M.; Medical, 8 P.M.
Tuesday.—Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ P.M.; Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.; Zoological, 8½ P.M.; Meteorological, 8 P.M.
Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 8 P.M.; Medico-Botanical, 8 P.M.; Graphic, 8 P.M.; Pharmaceutical, 8½ P.M.; Ethnological, 8½ P.M.
Thursday.—Royal, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, 8 P.M.; R. S. of Literature, 4 P.M.
Friday.—Astronomical, 8 P.M.
Saturday.—Asiatic, 2 P.M.; Royal Botanic, 4 P.M.; Westminster Medical, 8 P.M.; Mathematical, 8 P.M.

PINE ARTS.

STATUE OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON (CITY). On Monday the committee, under whose auspices the City equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington by the late Sir F. Chantrey (completed since his death by Mr. Weekes) is about to be erected, were summoned to inspect the full-sized model in the studio in Belgrave Place; the figure of his Grace, in clay, having been placed on horseback in order to judge of the general effect previous to being cast in bronze, as the horse has already been. Sir P. Laurie, Dr. Croly, Mr. Rainbow (the secretary), Mr. Barclay jun., Mr. Chadwick, and several other members, attended, and expressed themselves well pleased with the design; and after their departure, we believe, the Lord Mayor (*ex officio* a good judge of a horse!), and some other members, who had been detained opening a Commercial Hall in the city, arrived, and were similarly gratified with the appearance of the group. The Duke is seated in a very erect military position—his breast advanced, his left hand holding the bridle, and the right holding the "marshal's truncheon," resting easily on his thigh and the saddle. The likeness is forcible, and the head uncovered. The costume is very simple—the whole nether man, from the waist to the toe, being clothed in one unbroken pantalon, whilst a short cloak covers the shoulders, and is skillfully draped over the whole back, and partially down each side. The head of the horse is full of fire, the ears pricked forward. He is standing on all four legs, and not in action. The entire height is rather more than twelve feet; and the executors of Sir Francis stated that it would be ready next June, as agreed upon; but Sir P. Laurie doubted if the site near the Mansion House, dependent

on the building of the Royal Exchange, would be cleared for its reception by that time. The committee paid their respects to Lady Chantrey; and, having partaken of refreshments with her, retired.

ATTENDING, as we always wish to do, to any intimation connected with improvement in the Fine Arts, we went a few days ago to Mr. J. Hogarth's, in Great Portland Street, "to inspect a novel process by which an unfinished sketch may be made to assume the appearance of a finished production, while, in reality, it remains untouched." Such were the terms of Mr. Hogarth's invitation; and with the scepticism attendant upon a few years of experience, we took Portland Street in the course of the day's drive. But we have to add, with great praise, that we were well rewarded for our travel, and much gratified by the simplicity and ingenuity of this novel device.

The sketch was a fine one of Wilkie's, with five or six heads painted in, and in a finished style; the rest being merely indications of what the artist intended to do with scenery, background, and accessories. To supply these, a sheet of zinc is prepared and cut out wherever the painter's own work is required to appear, the opaque portion covering the unfinished parts, and, being painted upon, supplying the *desiderata*. Thus, when the glass-case door, on which the zinc is fixed, is opened, we see the original untouched sketch; when shut, we have all the appearance of a finished work. The invention is really most curious and interesting; and we have no doubt will be very generally employed to give a high additional value to many a beautiful design, left incomplete by masterly artists. Mr. Hogarth had also to shew us ninety-six illustrations of Shakspeare, by the late Mr. Singleton: we had no idea that he possessed so high a degree of talent and genius as these, the productions of ten years' study and labour, exhibit.

The Electrotypes, &c. By Mrs. Mary Parkes.

2d edit. Ridgway; Simpkin and Marshall. MRS. MARY PARKES has here fired another shot at Mr. Moon and the National Art-Union; and, if her ammunition is not spent, would, we daresay, go on as if she had whole Parks of artillery to bring to bear upon them. She is something like the soldier flogged by the Irish drummer; there is no pleasing her, whether the Unionists, or their imputed supporter, strike high or low. Proofs before letters are extravagant impositions, electrotypes are worthless; and yet it appears that some specimens of the latter are so well executed as to puzzle even this experienced judge. She imputes all sorts of trickery to Messrs. Moon, Lloyd, &c.; and, if not assisted by other brains, shews herself to be a clever woman, and not a bad writer.

Dolly Varden. Painted by W. P. Frith; engraved by C. E. Wagstaff. Lond., Mitchell. THIS is a charming print, from Boz's glowing picture of the locksmith's pretty daughter, in *Barnaby Rudge*. We have rarely seen an author's language, however picturesque and striking, so faithfully rendered by the sister-arts. The heroine is quite the captivating coquette the fancy of Dickens has drawn in so lively a manner: her piquant face is redolent of joy and health; her plump person and her rounded arm are happily shewn off by a gay dress, and her new bracelet, the admiration of which forms the point of the portrait. It is altogether a very beautiful and characteristic production.

Portrait of Washington. By Mr. Healy.

IT has been a source of pleasure to us to note the European progress of this American painter, and the merit of his performances exhibited at the Royal Academy. We have this week had the satisfaction to see his whole-length portrait of Washington, which he has been to America to paint for the King of the French, and is now taking to Paris. It is a very fine picture; the likeness copied from Stuart, and the figure disposed in a dignified attitude. Mr. Healy has also excellent half-lengths of Lord Ashburton and Mr. Webster, painted, we believe, "each for each."

THE DRAMA.

Covent Garden.—On Wednesday, a lively one-act farce, *The Highwayman*, bustled through with great spirit by Bartley, Harley, Meadows, J. Vining, &c. &c., Mrs. Humby and Miss Lee, was received with hearty laughter, and announced for repetition with the full concurrence of the audience. Miss Rainforth has played *Semiramide* twice; and though it is out of her accustomed line, acquitted herself in a superior manner. It is seldom we find a singer who could give equal effect to this lofty tragic part, and also to the variety of Ariel and sweetness of Zerlina. The results of Crivelli's admirable teaching were never more delightfully displayed.

Adelphi.—On Monday, Mr. Hamilton, a new candidate for public favour in the line left vacant by the loss of Tyrone Power, made his *début* here in the part of *Larry Hoogan* in *More Blunders than one*. In person, face, and voice, he possesses every requisite for popularity; and, making due allowance for the perturbation of a first appearance, where also so trying a comparison awaited him, we consider his performance to have been altogether successful. His action is Irish without extravagance, his expression (with a fine countenance and eye) jocose and amusing; and he possesses a rich natural brogue, such as nobody out of the Emerald Isle can imitate. In the piece he introduced an excellent new song by Mr. Lover, and sang it well; but will do it much better (as he will do every thing else which he has to do) when he has ascertained how to pitch his voice exactly to the size of the theatre. The curtain fell amid unanimous applause, though the gods were sharp-set for the pantomime.

The Princess's Theatre deserves rather more notice than we took of it in our last, being perhaps one of the most beautiful in the world; and though cramped for room behind the curtain, it seems as if every thing that scenery and arrangement can do to make much of small space had been carefully attended to. The return of Mr. Templeton to the stage ought not to be passed over in silence; he is wonderfully improved in voice, and also in acting. In some of the higher notes of his voice he is almost, if not quite, equal to Rubini. The basso, Mr. Weiss, a gentleman new to the stage, is likely to prove an acquisition; he has a fine voice, and as he acquires confidence, will lose the ungainly appearance which always strikes the eye in a thin tall man. But where are our manners to leave the lady to the last? Mad. Eugénie Garcia, sister-in-law and pupil of the lost Malibran, is a charming singer, and in some of her lower notes reminds us forcibly of her lamented teacher. The opera has been the *Sonnambula*, followed by a merry fairy extravaganza, in which our old favourite Oxberry is excellent; and a new dancer is introduced, whose power of the toes is perfectly wonderful: indeed Melanie Duval is a second Cerito.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY. THE COCKNEY CATECHISM,

OR
LONDON ONE LIE!
No. I.—Introductory.

THE family of the Fitz-Pepins were an irregular offshoot from King Pepin le Bref, the founder of them, and of the Carolingian dynasty; and settled from some where, about the year 777, in the south of France. The race were distinguished by an irresistible spirit of curiosity, which prompted them to be ever prying and inquisitive. Many of them were consequently great antiquaries, others profound astrologers, others wonderful alchemists, and others detestable heretics; so it need not be matter of wonder, that the business of the famous edict of Nantes drove their then representatives to seek refuge from persecution in England. Deprived of their ample possessions, and reduced to a very moderate modicum of fortune, they thought it expedient to drop the regal and aristocratic *Fitz*, and assume the simple name of Pepin, only altered, by the addition of an *e*, into *Pepin*, to hide their high descent, and not provoke the envy of their neighbours about the Cheape, where they set themselves down in London as jewellers and dealers in fancy articles. Here they maintained that happy middle station in life, which admits of the greatest comfort to the body, and the most unrestrained exercise of the faculties to the mind. Henri Martel Peepin died the 31st of December, 1799, regretting that he could not see the commencement of the new century, and perhaps see it out, in order to settle the dispute then raging on the question, whether it really began on the 1st of January, 1800, or the 1st of January, 1801. He left an independent competency to his only son, Hugh Pharamond Capet, and an annuity of a hundred and forty pounds *per annum* to his only sister, Margery Peepin. In process of time Hugh married, and Margery did not. Attached by that kindness of family affection which is one of the most pleasing features in the national blood of France, and living in single blessedness with her nephew, Aunt Margery transplanted herself with him into his matrimonial circle and connexions; and was indeed very curious to behold how the quondam little Pharamond would conduct himself under the uncommon circumstances of being a husband and having a wife. The same feeling was kept vividly alive when first a little girl, and next a little boy appeared in the *ménage* of Old Cavendish Street, where the Peepins had taken up their abode. But these young ones were so rapidly succeeded by others, that Mrs. P. could attend only occasionally to their up-bringing; and that important task devolved on Aunt Margery, than whom the whole West-end held not an individual more fit to communicate all sorts of intelligence, such as never was unfolded in the most extraordinary *Gazette*.

Priscilla and Philippe—for so were the children named; the former after her mother, and the latter after Philippe (whether *le hardi, le bel, or le long*, is uncertain)—became her inseparable companions. They studied with her, they romped with her, they walked with her, they chatted with her: in fine, she was their Mentora and instructress, their companion, their friend, their guardian, and their dear, dear Aunt Margery.

And in no way did Aunt Margery more delight to pour her instruction into their plastic understandings, than in the highways and by-ways of London streets. A peripatetic in her

philosophy, she held the busy haunts of men to be far more available to teach the young idea, than either the secluded Academy, the Grove, the Lyceum, or the Porch. Oxford Street was her Academy, Rathbone Place her Grove, Regent Street her Lyceum, Sydney's Alley her Porch.

These were her "whereabouts;" and it was in her rambling morning walks thereabouts that the conversations occurred which have given the title to this series of papers. The hereditary curiosity of the Peepins ran constitutionally strong in the trio; and their discoveries and revelations may truly be considered as the most beneficial, as well as amusing, public result which could emanate from the indulgence of that appetite. Aunt Margery was willing to teach, and (as she had abbreviated their names, making the *s* in *Pris* so noiseless a syllable, and the *l* in *Phil* so inconceivably a liquid, that neither was ever heard) *Pri* and *Phi* were willing to learn; and thus was produced

THE COCKNEY CATECHISM, OR LONDON ONE LIE!

Aunt Margery. Before we take our promenade this fine morning, I hope you will remember what I told you about the cheap articles you see ticketed in the shop-windows. You may lay it down as a rule, that if their retail price is less than they can be bought at wholesale, they are either spurious imitations of the articles of which they purport to be the best quality, or other articles entirely different, but disguised so as to resemble those the names of which they assume. There is one exception: when goods are stolen or otherwise dishonestly obtained from swindlers about to be bankrupts; but these are not *always* exposed to the public eye.

Pri. O yes, dear aunt, I can understand quite well, that if shopkeepers sell their goods for less than they buy them, the more and the faster they sell, the sooner they must be ruined.

Phi. Is that what papa calls carrying on a roaring trade, aunt?

Aunt Margery. No, my love; though it is often difficult to distinguish the one kind from the other. But come, the weather is fine and frosty; let us get out at this holiday season, and see what is going on among the caterers for the public tastes, when young and old must all be pleased.

* * * * *

Pri. Tell me, dear aunt, what these people are who walk about, something like the harlequin we saw in the pantomime, only they wear the masks over their mouths instead of their eyes. Why do they disguise themselves so?

Aunt Margery. It is not a disguise, but an invention for the preservation of health. These worthy folks have been persuaded that the fresh atmosphere is injurious to their lungs, especially if diseased; and therefore, instead of breathing freely, they put their mouths permanently into this sort of black bag, as the cab-horses do occasionally into their nose-bags, and fancy that by inspiring and respiring their own breath, loaded with impurities, and deprived more and more of that element which is absolutely necessary to sustain animal life, they are taking good care of their constitutions. Afraid of catching colds, they consign themselves to a foul and tainted medium, which, like the Grotto del Cano, would soon kill a dog. Depend upon it, the undertakers and mutes are not far behind either that delicate-looking girl, or that

sickly gentleman in the great-coat and huge fur collar, whom we have just passed, and who look like Maronites in their wiry chins.

By this time the little party had turned a little way down Oxford Street; and *Phi* called his aunt's attention to two crowds at a short distance from each other, the one looking into a confectioner's shop-window at the twelfth-cakes, and the other at the street, down both sides of which streams, not much unlike Highland rivulets, were running and gurgling precipitously, to the great delight of the poor London children, who are proverbially fond of water-works, except for washing themselves.

Aunt Margery observed, that though the busiest, the inhabitants of the metropolis were the idlest people in the world, when attracted by any sight, no matter how trivial; they would stand and gaze at a broken wheel, or a broken pane, an opened water-plug, or any equally unusual event; though perhaps their own or their master's customers were all the while waiting impatiently enough for their provisions, in tray or basket, thus arrested by the way. The present occasion, however, seemed to justify curiosity; and illustrate the general *lie* of London.

The street had just been laid down with that new and improved pavement of wood, so soft, so noiseless, so perfect, that the contracting company had demonstrated its extraordinary superiority over granite, M'Adam, asphalt, and every other sort of road or pathway; and shewn that, by its geometrical forms and fitness, it must remain for ever even and unworn above, firm and compact below. Unhappily there had been about forty-eight hours of a sharp frost, and half a dozen of a sudden thaw; when, lo, a water-pipe gave way, and up burst the irresistible pavement, like a bridge blown from its piers; the water gushed from between every crevice; the streets were inundated; and the horses and carriages passing along made the solid blocks move, splashing up and down, like the keys of a piano-forte rapidly struck by a Thalberg or Hertz. It was a piteous sight to behold this immense *lie* (called invention or speculation by those who had laid their heads together to lay it down, and job by vestries or other authorities who adopt it,) exploded, as any other hollow arch would be under the same circumstances, so immediately after being completed.

Phi. But does not this blowing-up prove that the wooden pavement at least won't be a *lie* of London?

Aunt Margery. Ah, you droll rogue!

The other matter, though it attracted an equal crowd, only partially moved Aunt Margery to explanation; for, as she observed, there was, in fact, very little of the article in or on these compositions, meaning thereby the *sugar* figures which cover twelfth-cakes, and the *sugar* crosses and ornaments which embellish them.

My dears, (said she) I will tell you something of the manufacture and adulteration of sugar when we have a talk over its not unworthy companions, our tea or coffee, at breakfast; but these horrid fabrications are merely sweetened with the coarsest saccharine substances. Chalk, plaster of Paris, paste of flour, unfit for even low-priced bakers, and other vegetable, or, still worse, poisonous metallic colouring, are their principal ingredients. These deep and lighter red drops are tinted with red lead and vermilion.

Phi. Are they sugar of lead?

Aunt Margery. Not quite: but something like fireworks, all tinted with what it is better to see burst in the skies than put into the stomach. These green are with verdigris, these yel-

low with ochre; and they are all called sugar-plums, although not one-tenth part of them is sugar, and that too of the "bastard" kind, made by boiling molasses and the refuse left from the process of refining. I assure you when it is calculated that every individual in Great Britain, on an average, consumes 24 lbs. of sugar in a year, twelfth-cakes and confectionary add the smallest item that can be conceived to the grand total. Maple and parsnips, not to mention beet-root, might abundantly furnish all they require, without recourse to the cane. But you see that the makers of these most unwholesome things, which literally "poison in jest," are not content with the usual methods of procuring customers by exposing their gaily-adorned wares. There are hundreds of lotteries and raffles all over town for the disposal of thousands of these compositions, so injurious to the health of adult or child. As we go along into other streets we shall find some of their projects; which use all the formalities of the state-lotteries abolished by governments immoral, and encouraging the bad spirit of gambling, but now, it would seem, allowed, if not approved of, in many kinds of private and unregulated adventure. Oh, here is a raffle, "Superb Guinea Cake—21 chances, only One Shilling each." That cake did not cost seven shillings to make, and the materials are all so bad, that a pound of it eaten at a time would, in all probability, kill a coalheaver. But this is on the small scale; let us get to the greater undertakings. Here is one of them:—

"A grand Lottery of Twelfth Cakes, to be drawn Jan. 5, 1843, at £50 of Twelfth Cakes to be drawn for in the following manner:—

Scheme.	£ s. d.
10 at 1 Guinea	10 10 0
20 at 10s. 6d.	10 10 0
60 at 5s.	15 0 0
60 at 2s. 6d.	7 10 0
130 at 1s.	6 10 0

£50 0 0

There will be a prize upon the average of every four tickets. Drawing will take place on the evening of the 5th. Prizes to be delivered on the 6th. Tickets, 1s. each."

Yet even this is but third-rate: the next is more inviting:

"A. B. C. Confectioner, begs leave to inform his friends and the public, he intends distributing One hundred and fifty pounds worth of rich Twelfth Cakes, in 1500 Shares, at 2s. each,—all prizes,—to take place on Friday, the 6th of January, 1843, commencing at 9 o'clock in the morning.

List of Prizes.	£ s. d.
3 at £5 5 0 are	£10 10 0
5 " 2 2 0 "	10 10 0
15 " 1 1 0 "	15 15 0
50 " 0 10 6 "	26 5 0
80 " 0 5 0 "	20 0 0
1348 " 0 1 0 "	67 8 0

1500 Prizes. £150 8 0

A. B. C. pledges himself the Cakes shall be of the best and richest quality that can be made."

Phi. Dear aunt, surely nobody could have the hard-heartedness to think that this was a London lie.

Aunt Margery. Albeit the occasion is trifling, it may be taken as a key to the whole trading of London, respecting which I have promised to enlighten you; and all I shall say now is, that it is as true as any of the rest.

[*Mem.* The fruit-portion of the cake-making is left out, though Aunt Margery is strong upon raisins, currants, and orange-peel; but they must come into a future fruitful exposition. —*Ed.*]

MUSIC.

PUBLICATIONS BY CHAPPELL.

A HAPPY new year to our very young friends, for whom we have purposely reserved our no-

tice of H. B.'s (not caricatures, but) *Songs for the Nursery*. The airs are really pretty, and will please children of a larger growth than those to whom the words are adapted: the latter are sure to delight the little ones.

"Pussy cat, pussy cat, where have you been?
I've been to London to see the queen!
Pussy cat, pussy cat, what did you there?
I frightened a little mouse under the chair!"

And,—

"The north wind doth blow, and we shall have snow,
And what will poor Robin do then, poor thing?
He'll sit in a barn, and keep himself warm,
And hide his head under his wing, poor thing!"

And so on through the set, the price of which is very moderate.

But next of Chappell's we have received, and at the beginning of the year, the fourth set of Mrs. Norton's delightful songs. They are rich in grace and feeling, and will be warmly welcomed wherever simple melody and poetical beauty can be appreciated. The whole of the words are by Mrs. Norton, who has likewise composed one or two of the melodies. Miss Augusta Cowell has contributed two compositions, and we presume arranged all. Four pretty Russian airs complete the contents of this agreeable volume, which we cordially recommend to our amateur friends. We may mention that several of the airs are arranged both as solos and duets.

PUBLICATIONS BY D'ALMAINE AND CO.

The Real Scotch Quadrilles, composed by Julien. A lively, cheerful set of old Scotch airs, to which folks must dance. We defy any body with a grain of merry soul, to lounge or walk through the figures when these quadrilles are spiritedly played: no performance of a painful duty then, as too frequently may be observed in modern dancing! But to return to the music; can we misapprehend the term *composed*, or does M. Julien misapply it? We think he does; and direct his attention to the next sheet of music, and its truthful title.

"Rule Britannia," composed by Dr. Arne; arranged as a Rondo by C. Czerny.—The little piece is pleasing, attractive, and worthy of notice.

Felice Donzella. Romance par Sigismund Thalberg.—One of the showy and elegant compositions of the great pianist; but with none of the difficult passages which the master himself so marvellously executes, and which almost as a matter of course pervade most of his works. The *Romance* is within the scope of moderate practice.

VARIETIES.

A Plan for the more speedy and effectual Extinction of sudden and destructive Fires, by J. D. Murphy (London, G. Mann), in a pamphlet of 16 pages, repudiates water as an extinguisher on account of the oxygen it contains, and enforces the expediency of saturating that element with chloride or muriate of soda and potash, or only the former. How these ingredients are to be supplied in sufficient quantity is not very obvious.

The Naturalist's Pocket Almanack (Van Voorst).—A small but useful almanack for persons fond of natural history: it might be enlarged with advantage.

H. B. has given us five Christmas caricatures, but not very striking for invention. An ominous conjunction of two great law-luminaries presents Lords Lyndhurst and Brougham conjoining the late Chancery-system and patronage. A governor-general "as was," and a second "as is," are whole-lengths of Lords Auckland and Ellenborough; and the Bull in a China-

shop shews us John rampant among crockery-ware. The best is "the Disputed Thunder," wherein are a dozen of figures, the chiefs of the present and late Ministry, each claiming the merit of the recent victories in the East. The grouping is very clever, and the likenesses and expression of the various claimants happily struck off.

Horses' Glaciarum.—City, Jan. 3, 1843. Sir, I take the liberty of requesting you will correct the error into which the public are likely to fall by the advertisement of the proprietor of the Glaciarum, or artificial ice, at the West-end of the town. The invention is not his; as any one can testify who has visited the City within the last few months, and seen the beautiful skating surface upon the wood-pavement in the Poultry. The only difference consists in our (City) specimen being intended for horses, who, we considered, would have been able to pass over the pavement in a single slide, without having the trouble to move their legs.—I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

AN ALDERMAN.

The English Language.—We learn from the *Malta Times* that the cultivation of the English language in that island has been encouraged by the government ordering that persons of the legal profession should be able to read, write, and speak English; and that the pleadings in the courts should be in that tongue (except, if we understand rightly, in the Court of Special Commission, where Italian is used). The public library has also been placed under the superintendence of a committee appointed by the Governor instead of the University, as heretofore.

South Australia.—The Adelaide newspapers announce the discovery, or perhaps the exploring, of a tract of country, 90 miles long and 30 across, stretching along the western bank of the Glenelg, and extending eastwards to Rivoli Bay. Mount Gambier and Mount Schanck are found to be extinct volcanoes; the latter comprises five craters, each about three-quarters of a mile in diameter, and filled with pure fresh water. A good harbour is stated to be situated about 10 miles from Mount Schanck; and the new country is described as resembling a nobleman's park.

Mount Etna.—The eruptions have continued beyond the period expected by the most experienced persons. The flow of lava is said to have extended 10 miles. Several terrestrial shocks and commotions have been felt at Aquila. There had been much anxiety for the fate of a German party, who had started to ascend Mount Etna, and whose return had been looked for some days. Vesuvius is tranquil.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Dr. Shelton Mackenzie's New Romance.—Among Mr. Bentley's announcements for the coming season is "Titan; a Romance of Venice," by Dr. Mackenzie, who, we believe, is editor of the *Saturnian Journal*. This romance, we hear, is the first specimen, in our literature, of the art-novel—a species of fiction very popular on the continent. The hero is the great Venetian painter, Titian; and among the characters are his rival Giorgione, Ariosto the poet, and the celebrated Cornelius Agrippa. There are glimpses, also, of Raphael and Michael Angelo. The scene is principally at Venice, and the time is that of the League of Cambray. There is a love-story (of course); but the object of the work is to illustrate the romantic incidents of Titian's early career. The subject, it must be confessed, has great capabilities, if properly treated.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

The Life of William Bedell, D.D., Bishop of Kilmore, by H. J. Monck Mason, LL.D., 8vo, 10s. 6d.—Letters and Biography of Felix Neff, translated from the French of M. Bost, by M. A. Wyatt, fcp. 6s.—Natural History of New York, 4to, Part I. Zoology, 36s.—

The Condition and Fate of England, by the Author of "The Glory and Shame of England," 9 vols. 12mo, 12s. 6d. Bentley's Hand-Books of Science, Literature, and Art: Silk, Cotton, and Woollen Manufactures, by W. C. Taylor, fcp. 2s. 6d. sewed. — The Last Ball, and other Tales, by G. Soane, Esq., 3 vols. p. 8vo, 17. 11s. 6d. — Literary Walks through many Lands, by H. D. Inglis, 3d edit. 8vo, 2s. 6d. — Arehbp. Usher's Complete Works, Vol. VII. 8vo, 12s. — Turner's Views in Richmondshire, fol. 3l. 3s.; India Proofs, 5l. 3s. — Synopsis of Practical Philosophy, by the Rev. J. Carr, 2d edit. 18mo, 5s. — Designs for Mosaic Pavements, by O. Jones, imp. 4to, 21s. — Life of Robert Pollok, by his Brother, post 8vo, 10s. 6d. — The Christian Magazine for 1842, Vol. I. 12mo, 2s. 6d. — Cottager's Monthly Visitor for 1842, 4s. bds. — Rise, Progress, and Present State of the Mormons, by the Rev. H. Caswall, p. 8vo, 7s. 6d. — Military Operations at Cabul, by Lieut. V. Eyre, post 8vo, 10s. 6d. — Professional Excursions, by an Auctioneer, 8vo, 10s. 6d. — Examples in Arithmetic, by W. Foster, the Master's Copy, with Key, 12mo, 3s. 6d. — Anti-Popery, by J. Rogers, 3d edit. 12mo, 2s. 6d. — Divine Inversion; or, the Character of God opposed to the Character of Man, by D. Thorn, 8vo, 10s. — True Stories from the History of the Church, with Preface, by the Rev. T. King, square, 2s. 6d.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1842.

Dec.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday . . . 29	From 35 to 49	30.03 to 30.09
Friday . . . 30	" 48 . . 55	30.10 . . 30.65
Saturday . . . 31	" 47 . . 55	30.01 . . 29.95
Jan. 1843.		
Sunday . . . 1	" 30 . . 28	30.16 . . 30.11
Monday . . . 2	" 26 . . 36	29.94 . . 29.97
Tuesday . . . 3	" 19 . . 35	30.07 . . 30.14
Wednesday . . 4	" 30 . . 42	29.83 . . 29.93

Wind S.W. till the evening of the 31st ult.; N. by W. and N.W. from the 1st till the 4th inst.; on the morning of the 4th S., afternoon N.W. Except the evening of the 31st ult. and morning of the 4th instant, when rain fell, generally clear. Rain fallen, 2.7 of an inch.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*. We need not request the particular attention of our philosophical friends to Prof. Faraday's letter in a preceding page; but it is certainly made more than usually important, from coinciding in the same No. with the further exposition in Prof. Müsser's views on the same subject (Paris Letter, p. 8), which is now so interesting to the whole physical science of Europe.

We thank J. K., though we cannot avail ourselves of the favour.

We are afraid that "Game's" couplet is a plagiarism, for we have seen or heard some other similar epigram quoted on the accident, said to have been so painful to the Duke of Wellington, from the wing-bone of a porridge.

"For Bonaparte the Duke cared not a groat,
But a Boney-part-ridge stuck fast in his throat."

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Oak Carvings for Church Decorations, &c.

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Proprietors of the Patent method of Carving in Solid Wood, beg leave to invite the Nobility, Clergy, and Architects, to view their specimens of Oak Carvings, suitable to the Gothic Embellishments of Cathedrals and Churches, such as Stalls, Pannels, Enriched Tracery, Chairs, Communion-Rails, Tables, Altar-screens, Pulpits, Reading-Desks, Lecterns, Stalls-Heads, Finials, Organ-Screens, Gallery-Fronts, &c. &c., at one half the price usually charged.

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HOUSE, 65 Regent's Quadrant, corner of Air Street.—Postage Envelopes, 1s. per dozen; Mourning Envelopes, 2s. per hundred. Good Letter Paper, 1s. per quire, 4s. per ream; Foolscap, 6d. per quire, 9s. per ream; Satin Note-Paper, 2d. per quire, 3s. per ream; Writing-Cases, 6d. each. The best Sealings-Vax, 10 sticks 1s. The celebrated Magnesian Bonum Steel-Pens, 6d. per dozen. Albums, from 1s. each. Scrap-Books, 4d. each. Copy-Books, 4d. each. Bibles, handsomely bound, 2s. each. Prayer-Books, to match, 1s. 6d. each. Music-Cases, lock and key, 1s. each. Civil-Service Cards, 1s. 6d. per pack. Cumberland Lead-Pencils, 6d. per dozen.

Please to copy the Name and Address.

HODGSON AND ABBOTT'S EAST INDIA

PALE ALE.—E. ABBOTT, the sole surviving partner in this long-celebrated Establishment, informs the public that this Beer, so strongly recommended by the Faculty, not being sold to the Trade, can only be procured at the Brewery, Bow.

City Office, 98 Gracechurch Street.

PATENT ELASTIC STEEL-IRON,

Made (exclusively) by the Ystalyfera Iron Company, by the use of Anthracite Coal with Cold-Blast.

MR MUSHET, the Author of the celebrated Treatise on the Manufacture of Iron and Steel, who has made a series of most elaborate experiments on this extraordinary iron, which combines all the facilities of Cast-iron, with much of the strength and elasticity of Steel, in concluding his report, remarks:—

"From these, and the former comparative experiments, it is abundantly evident, that the Pig-Iron, working at the Ystalyfera Iron-works, with Cold-blast and Anthracite, greatly exceeds in strength, in defective power, and capacity to resist impact, any iron at this time manufactured in the United Kingdom, and that it is now remain for me to mention a property peculiar to this iron. The property referred to is one of great springiness or elasticity, which communicates a tendency to the bar in deflection and bending to resume its rectangular form. Bars that had obtained a permanent set of 2-10ths, when afterwards broken, presented but a slight deviation from a right line, and in no case did the acquired curvature exceed one-fourth of a tenth."

"It was also remarked, that most of the fractures in breaking presented a similarity of grain throughout, resembling the structure of unhardened steel."

(Signed) "DAVID MUSHET."

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